

Colorado Builder Recognized for Environmentally Safe and Energy Efficient Custom Homes

John Kurowski has dedicated himself to environmentally sound building since the early seventies, when he built the first solar home in Colorado. A visionary in his field, he is one of the founders of the Built Green Colorado Program. It is an effort to pave the way for changes in the market place. Determined to modify current building practices, Kurowski explains, "Built Green is a system for design and construction of homes based on energy efficiency, water efficiency, indoor air quality and comfort, durability, and the use of products that have a positive impact on the environment."

Kurowski Development Co.'s latest project on Belle Vista Drive in Conifer is a testament to the program. This four-bedroom custom home with a square footage of 5,320 feet is the most energy efficient and cost effective home available in its category today. Based on the final E-Star energy rating, the innovations utilized will save the owners \$1,068 per year in energy costs and will eliminate 13.8 tons of carbon dioxide from being discharged into the atmosphere each year.

Belle Vista's foundation walls were built with Insulated Concrete Forms (ICF), yielding a R-20 insulating level and to provide an effective moisture barrier. The 2x6 walls were insulated to a R-20 with blown insulation which provides superior envelope for the house. Insulation was also blown into the attic (R-38) and into the joist space above the garage, minimizing carbon monoxide infiltration.

Instead of the forced-air heating systems installed in most of the new construction in the Denver metro area, an in-slab hydronic heating system with 13 zones was installed, along with a closed-combustion "Munchkin" brand boiler, with an unparalleled efficiency rate of 92%. To further reduce heat loss throughout the wall cavity, Kurowski used 1" expanded polystyrene Exterior Insulation



Belle Vista Drive Residence



John Kurowski with Susan Marvin, President of Marvin Windows and Doors

Finish System. Double-paned, double low-e coated windows complimented the rest of the highly insulated home.

In recognition of his commitment to resource and energy efficient building, Kurowski was named a winner of the 2003 Yellow Rose Regional Recognition program, sponsored by Marvin Windows and Doors. The program recognizes building industry professionals in designated regions of the United States who pursue excellence in their work while promoting the advancement of their community.

Nineteen winners were honored at the 2003 Marvin Windows and Doors Yellow Rose Regional Recognition Awards Ceremony at the International Builders Show in Las Vegas in January. Marvin Windows and Doors will donate \$1,000 to each distinguished recipient's charity. Kurowski has chosen the Home Builders Foundation; The Philanthropic Arm Of The Home Builders Assoc. Of Metropolitan Denver.

Having been an active member of the Home Builders Association for over 25 years, Kurowski believes in educating developers, builders, manufacturers and homeowners on the long-term values of environmental conservation and energy savings. He continues to promote the utilization of cutting edge materials and building science concepts. Since he helped launched the program in 1997, Built Green has registered over 13,000 homes. Builders are, indeed, embracing the guidelines that will benefit thousands of families, their homes and the environment for generations to come. You may contact John Kurowski at 303-972-8680 or email at John@kurowski.com.