

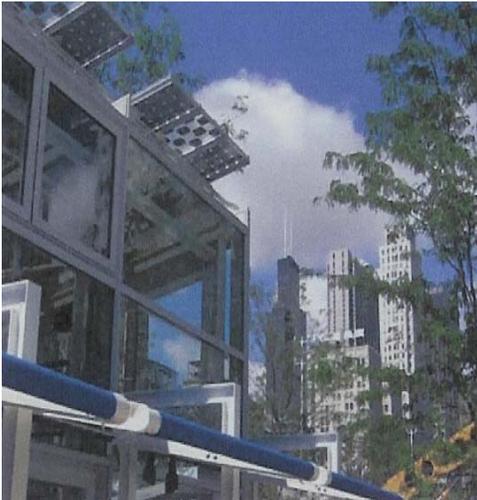
HELI GRAPHS

www.illinoissolar.org

Newsletter of the Illinois Solar Energy Association September 2004, Vol. 23, No. 3

Greening Chicago: A Walk in the Park

The latest buzz in Chicago is its new world-class attraction, Millennium Park. The Park is Chicago's twenty-first century answer to Paris and Vienna, offering art, music, architecture and landscape all rolled into a 24.5-acre gem in the heart of Grant Park. Visitors can dine al fresco and listen to live orchestra in the summer, or ice skate in the winter, all while enjoying the view from one of Chicago's most central vantage points.



First conceived in 1997 as a way to renovate the space that was occupied by old railroad tracks and crumbling parking lots, the Park opened this month with an unparalleled collection of works from internationally renowned artists such as Frank Gehry, Anish Kapoor, Jaume Plensa and Kathryn Gustafson. Even the harshest critics gave rave reviews. Importantly, the City maintained its commitment to "greening the City" by applying environmental and energy conscious design to the architecture in various buildings throughout.

By doing so, the City makes a strong statement and helps expand the definition of "greening Chicago" - from beautification to sustainable building and development.



Recently, the City of Chicago passed the Chicago Standard, a "green" guideline for all City-owned buildings based on the US Green Building Council's LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System®. The City of Chicago is also the first nonsunbelt city in the U.S. with one Megawatt of PV installed on multiple public and private buildings. These renewable energy systems offset 1,200 tons of CO₂, NO_x, SO_x and other pollutants like mercury every year, and supply enough electricity to power about three to four city blocks.

So, with it being Millennium Park's time to shine, it would be a waste to let its impressive "green" highlights go unrecognized. Throughout Millennium Park, there are five buildings that use the sun to produce their power.

("Green Chicago" continued on page 4)

ISEA Awarded Million Solar Roofs Grant

The ISEA is pleased to announce that it was awarded a Million Solar Roofs Initiative (MSRI) grant by the U.S. Department of Energy. The grant will be used by ISEA to provide management for the Chicago Solar Partnership, begun by the City of Chicago in 1998.

The Chicago Solar Partnership, under the leadership of Mayor Richard M Daley, helped made the city one of the showcases of America in solar technology, policy and market adoption.

It gave birth to the concept of "Brightfields" using Brownfields for solar energy development, one of the most progressive energy codes in the US, and the inauguration of solar PV and thermal manufacturing businesses within the city.

Original partners include: Chicago, ComEd, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Spire Solar Chicago, Community Energy Cooperative and the Chicago Public Schools.

Future Partnership goals are the expansion of technology, marketing and geographic activities to carry out its MSRI mission.

The ISEA thanks the USDOE and its Chicago Director, Peter Dreyfuss and MSRI Program Manager, Melinda Latimer, for their support and assistance.

*Mark Burger
President, ISEA*



ISEA Fall Membership Meeting & Wind Farm Tour
Saturday, 9/18, 10am - 1pm

Come join us on this fascinating and informative tour of the 1st production wind farm in Illinois, the Mendota Hills Wind Farm! You don't have to be a member to attend so invite your friends, family, neighbors, colleagues & politicians. We will also be joined by the Environmental Concerns Committee of the Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends

We will be meeting at the Paw Paw Community Room, 362 Chicago Rd, Paw Paw, IL, 61353

Agenda:

- 10:00-10:30 Networking with light refreshments
- 10:30-10:45 Brief business meeting
- 10:45-11:30 Presentation on the Wind Farm
- 11:30-1:00 Drive 3 miles to wind farm for tour

(The ISEA will help arrange carpooling between interested parties. Please contact us (via phone or email) if you are willing to drive and/or wish to ride, and from which city - we will connect people in similar areas.)

Thanks to new Program & Events Chair Fred Orchard for coordinating this event!

Your RSVP is appreciated - so that we know how many folks to expect, and how much food to bring.

RSVP & Additional Info:

Ted Lowe
info@illinoissolar.org
(630) 260-0424

The Solar Triangle
ISEA President's Letter

Greetings from your sports-crazy President. As the Division races devolve into Wild Card races (and, for all I know when this reaches your eyes, into nothing), I was thinking of another sports analogy while enjoying another successful Illinois Renewable Fair - the Triangle Offense of Chicago Bulls' fame. While memory of a successful Chicago NBA franchise grows ever dimmer, I remember the successful execution of this scoring strategy. Without getting into a level of detail that would make ESPN addicts happy, the Triangle Offense is a set, spread attack on the basket, where the shooting guard does a number of moves toward the basket. Everyone has a defined role, and any number of moves that are practiced and rehearsed can occur, depending upon the situation, usually resulting in a score. It was a pleasure to watch, especially compared to today's anarchistic toss and crash mess that passes for offense today.

The Bulls were talented, but not successful, until the Triangle. Some might say that Michael Jordan, Scottie Pippen and three 8-year olds could have run the Triangle and won. Not quite. It was talent harnessed by a set strategy that used that talent to breed success, championship success.

What does this have to do with ISEA and the rest of the Illinois renewable energy community? We can run our own Triangle Offense. Instead of a hardwood court, we can use our great state accordingly in strategic manner. We have the makings of getting the word out to Illinoisans in a steady stream over the next few years.

I propose that we work to have three major renewable energy events in Illinois. We have the Illinois Renewable Energy Fair every August in northwestern Oregon, soon to have a fourth year. We need to have an annual event in Chicago, or its immediate metropolitan area as well. We also need to have an annual event in Springfield.

Why three events a year? Illinois is a large, diverse state with over eleven

million persons, the majority of them in a huge metropolitan area, the rest in smaller cities, towns and rural communities stretched over hundreds of miles. Three events can address these diverse needs.

The second event needs to be a specifically designed for the Chicago market, one more similar to a Home Show than a Fair. These are for the people interested in renewable energy that only want to drive a short distance, or take public transit, or bicycle to a venue. This event can be held in the spring or fall, targeting urban and suburban audiences.

The third event would be one located in Springfield and be held in January or February to coincide with the beginning of the legislative session. This event would be more designed for the policy and decision makers who impact our businesses, communities and futures. A public exhibit would also be available for interested people in the southern half of the state to attend.

These are ambitious goals, having a Triangle Offense where renewable energy is always in the public view. The ISEA will begin to explore a Chicago-based venue on the heels of the wonderful news of our being awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy for the Million Solar Roofs Initiative. We also look forward to partnering with other groups for a Springfield-based event as well. Until then, try not to double dribble.

Mark Burger
President, ISEA

Summer Meeting Notes

ISEA's Summer Membership meeting at Solargenix Energy was a great success. About 40 people enjoyed the food, networking, and above all, the tour of their new manufacturing facility.

We wish to extend our deep thanks to the folks at Solargenix Energy for graciously hosting our meeting! And congratulations to Ace Keller who won our book raffle: "The Return of the Solar Cat".

Ted Lowe
Treasurer, ISEA



National Solar Tour Saturday, 10/2, 10am-5pm

You are invited to tour real world applications of renewable energy already operating in your community. Illinois visitors can learn about the benefits and economics of renewable energy, experiencing and inspecting them in person. The "open-house" tours are generally self paced between the hours of 10am-5pm.

The homes offer a variety of solar energy applications including: solar-thermal hot water & space heating systems, solar-electric generating systems, and passive solar heating & day lighting designs.

Integrating solar energy into homes and buildings can yield many benefits, such as: lowered electric or gas utility costs, reduced pollution and greenhouse gasses, reduced dependence on fossil fuels, and increased building comfort and daylight.

Please see ISEA's web "portal" for buildings & locations open for touring:

For More Information, contact:

Ted Lowe
info@illinoissolar.org
(630) 260-0424

Henri Chaumoant House

Last April I went on a journey to Europe to see certain buildings and spend time with friends in Berlin, Paris, Liege and Amsterdam. My friend Jacques Gillet, now retired after a lifetime of teaching Organic Architecture in a College near Liege, Belgium was eager to show me

four buildings, 2 by himself and 2 by his students, constructed in and near Liege.

Pictured here is the family home and studio of Architect Henri Chaumoant. Henri designed and is constructing this passive solar natural home on their farm about an hour and a half outside of Liege. Solar features in this remarkably detailed wood frame building are:



1. A South facing greenhouse, pictured, is used for growing flowers, vegetables, spices, and for winter sun heat stored in the building's ground floor, radiant heated, tile covered concrete slab. The massive stone walls sandwiched around insulation, keep the ground floor intimate bedrooms cool.
2. Day-lighting the large ground floor family space and two upper levels housing studios for Henri, his wife, a ceramicist, and their two children makes the spaces so habitable.
3. All spaces naturally cross ventilated.
4. Summer overheat is reduced by the large exterior canvas cover over the green house glass.



This environmentally conscious residence building is in a constant state of evolution, and open to thoughtful, spontaneous, artful design and detailing by the Architect and his family. A very sustainable house indeed.

Howard Alan
Vice President, ISEA

ComEd Factoid

Through June, 2004, ComEd reports 142 solar and wind interconnections in its service territory, with 1,388 kilowatts capacity of photovoltaic systems and 123 kilowatts of wind systems (not including the Mendota Hills utility-scale wind project in southern Lee County.)

The ISEA welcomes reports from other Illinois utilities of wind and solar interconnections.

Please contact:

mark.burger@illinoissolar.org

IREA Energy Fair Highlights

It is always satisfying to be able to report on another successful energy fair. According to a veteran participant of many major energy fairs throughout the country, the caliber of workshop presenters for the Illinois fair is equal to that of any he had ever attended. He felt that we need to impress our supporters with that understanding. Many comments were made about the excellent organization of the fair - "a well oiled machine" - especially considering that this was only its third year.

Keynoters and featured speakers stressed topics of major concern. Charles Komanoff advised we must get the price of energy right to develop a sustainable energy system. Manuel Solis reported on renewable energy and ecological restoration efforts in Peru and his interest in cooperating with the IREA. Bill Parton outlined the potential to expand ethanol production.

Mark Burger provided an overview of global developments in solar electricity and the need for expanded support in Illinois. Hans Detweiler pointed out state programs to help keep energy dollars local. Brandon Leavitt highlighted 25 years of progress in installing solar hot water systems.

Birgit Wolff emphasized her 23 year

(continued on next page)

struggle to lessen air pollution from vehicle emissions. Palmer Carlin and Trudy Forsyth emphasized the economic opportunities for community owned wind generators. Julia Steege, a high school student, gave her first public presentation on solar energy.

Additional ISEA members who spoke include Bil Becker, John Berton, and Ted Lowe.

A range of activities for children was available. Local musical groups filled the air with quality music.

A new feature was a series of early evening field trips. A top favorite was the beautiful new environmentally friendly "green home" of Kent and Kathy Lawrence. Situated on nearly 60 acres of dedicated nature preserve of oak hickory forest, the home features nontoxic construction materials, a sunspace for supplemental heat and a solar electric system linked with a 10kW wind generator.

A second field trip visited the earth-sheltered home being built by Marty and Ruthanne Davis. A trip to the Mendota Hills Wind Farm led by project director Brian Lammers was another trip of high interest which was well received by participants.

The wide range of booths and informed discussions occurring around the edges added up to a stimulating event. With extensive media coverage it was a very successful weekend. It is one that far more citizens should be attending to help get them through this difficult and costly energy situation.

Bob & Sonia Vogl, IREA



More pictures from this event are available at ISEA's Media Gallery: www.illinoisolar.org/media

"Green Chicago"

...continued from page 1

Together, these systems total to 80 kilowatts, which produce the equivalent electricity needed to power 15-20 Chicago homes. Moreover, Chicago-based Spire Solar Chicago manufactured them locally at their plant at the Chicago Center for Green Technology, a LEED Platinum building (the upper echelon in terms of "green" building ratings from the US Green Building Council).

The first of their kind in the U.S., three of the PV projects are unique in that they combine function with aesthetics. Known as Building Integrated Photovoltaics (BIPV), these solar electric systems produce electricity and double as building materials. A product application that is gaining attention and growing in popularity, BIPV can help decrease the cost of adding solar PV systems to a project by offsetting against the cost of the building material it replaces.

Aside from being quite stunning, the cubicle Exelon Pavilions, located on Upper East Randolph Street, are LEED registered. Designed by Hammond Beeby Rupert Ainge Architects (HBRA), the two, black minimalist towers further the "greening" of Chicago by integrating solar technology for a self-sustaining source of non-polluting electricity. Instead of using conventional glass panels, the HBRA design utilizes efficient monocrystalline PV panels in its curtain walls.

HBRA architects worked with Spire Solar Chicago engineers to design the architectural PV module. The solar module is comprised of dark PV cells encased in laminates that include color matched backsheets. By concealing the bus bars that connect the solar cells, the designers achieved a black, glazed appearance that contributes to the minimalist design of the Pavilions. HBRA and Spire Solar Chicago worked with Wausau Metals to create a BIPV curtain wall that complies with both the National Electrical Code and the Chicago Building code.

The Millennium Park Bicycle Station is also a green building featuring PV. Complete with 300 spaces, lockers,

showers, bike repair, bike rental and other amenities, the facility encourages commuters and recreational bikers to choose a "greener" form of transportation that is good for both health and air quality. Muller & Muller Architects used two of Spire Solar Chicago's custom modules for this Chicago facility. Clear-backed solar panels, some with cells arranged in a checkerboard fashion, are installed in a custom framing system over a glass atrium roof. The cells appear to "float" above the roof and cast a dappled pattern beneath. Already, the building is gaining attention, having been featured on various news stations at its ribbon cutting.

If you haven't yet visited Millennium Park, it's definitely worth a trip. Take a stroll by the green buildings that feature wonderful first-of-a-kind demonstrations of building integrated PV systems. Support the greening of Chicago by telling people that going green is a walk in the park.

For more information:

www.millenniumpark.org
www.chicagobikestation.com
www.spiresolarchicago.com

Angela Leontis, Spire Solar

NOTE: The ISEA has changed its web site address and email to:

www.illinoisolar.org

Information about ISEA can be obtained at:

info@illinoisolar.org

The phone number remains:
(630) 260-0424

Heliographs is published quarterly by the Illinois Solar Energy Association (ISEA). Editor: James Camasto. Special thanks to Philips Lighting for their generous donation of color printing services.

Membership information, updated information, and assistance in locating other resources can be obtained on the ISEA website: www.illinoisolar.org

Comments & questions may be directed to:

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Cuba School Serves As Model For Energy Cost Savings

State Funding Allows "Green School" To Tap Into The Blue Sky Of Natural Daylight and Solar Power

SPRINGFIELD - Thanks to \$625,000 in funding from Governor Rod Blagojevich's Opportunity Returns regional economic development program, students returning to school Monday at the new Cuba Middle-Senior High School will find themselves surrounded not only by green acres of nearby corn but also by a "green building" that is a new model for energy cost savings and sustainability practices in Illinois. The funding came from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's Bureau of Energy and Recycling.

"Illinois can be very proud of this model school," said Governor Blagojevich. "This green school uses natural daylighting, which studies have shown increases children's test scores, as well as other energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies. Through energy efficiency, we can reduce the energy costs for the local school district and improve student performance at the same time. This school will shine as an outstanding model that others across the state can emulate."

In construction of this Illinois "green school", every effort was made to incorporate as many elements of energy efficiency and renewable energy as possible, resulting in lower operating costs, increased safety and environmental health conditions, improved learning conditions and an example of environmental responsibility and sustainable behavior for students and the surrounding communities.

"Green architecture has gained great momentum in recent years and rightfully so. I'm very pleased to see Governor

Blagojevich supporting this technology in our schools. It will serve as a great educational tool for students - promoting creativity and environmental responsibility while also enhancing the widespread appeal of green design. Illinois continues to be a model of innovative ideas in action," State Senator George Shadid (D-Pekin) said.

Throughout the planning and construction phases, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity provided \$625,000 in grants to fund the innovative "green" components at the school. Projects include a geothermal heating and cooling system, a 60-kilowatt photovoltaic array to convert sunlight to energy, and classroom day lighting, which provides natural light throughout the school and is shown to improve student performance.

This green school is a great project for the kids—they can be inspired by the building itself, as well as by what they learn in the classrooms. But with energy costs on the rise, this project is also a good demonstration of innovative economic development. By creating a super-efficient building, using solar panels, such as those made here in Illinois, and investing in Illinois workers to install geothermal heating and cooling, we're developing a new energy economy for the new century that keeps our energy dollars here at home rather than exporting them for natural gas or oil," said DCEO Director Jack Lavin. DCEO's Bureau of Energy and Recycling administers a comprehensive portfolio of energy and recycling programs statewide.

"We envision our school as a living laboratory, and we plan to work energy savings, monitoring, and other green design concepts into our operations and curriculum," said Cuba Superintendent Dr. Janice Spears.

Additional highlights of the school's design are use of special energy efficiency lighting, such as zoned lighting and motion sensors in classrooms and hallways to reduce unnecessary demand for electricity, 100% recycled/recyclable carpeting, crumb rubber athletic fields, and gymnasium bleacher seating created from recycled materials. These energy efficient building techniques will save the school 35 to 40% of their energy costs per year in comparison to conventional construction practices.

This "green" school project received overwhelming community support, including the passage of a referendum by the Fulton County Community Unit School District No. 3, which provided \$2.7 million to build the school. A private donation by the late Alice Millard was also a key factor.

Governor Blagojevich's Opportunity Returns regional economic development plan is the most aggressive, comprehensive approach to creating jobs in Illinois' history. Since a one-size-fits-all approach to economic development just doesn't work, the Governor has divided the state into 10 regions - finding areas with common economic strengths and needs, and developing a plan with specific actions for each region. This grassroots effort for the North Central region is a product of significant outreach over several months throughout each region, with business, civic and labor leaders, and elected officials. The projects that the Governor announced in December for the North Central region are designed to be flexible and effective. Each plan is tailored to deliver real results that local businesses will see, feel, and, hopefully, profit from.

*Source: The Daily Ledger
Fulton County, IL Newspaper Online*

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ISEA WELCOMES CHARTER BUSINESS MEMBER

Solargenix Energy, LLC



Solargenix opened its new production facility in Chicago on March 30, making Chicago the only U.S. city to have both solar thermal and solar photovoltaic manufacturing capability.

The establishment of the Solargenix solar water heating system production facility is the result of a multi-million dollar procurement

contract between the City of Chicago and its partners: CHA, City Colleges, CTA, and the Park District. The agreement will provide the initial market in the area for the company's solar thermal technology.

The plant, which is located in a reclaimed historic building in Bridgeport, will have a capacity to make approximately 12,000 solar thermal collectors a year, and could expand to produce more than 36,000.

In addition to manufacturing activities, the building will house marketing, sales and project administration offices, and facilities for education and training programs.

The agreement with the City of Chicago provides for the use of

Solargenix's products on city-owned properties such as parks, swimming pools, housing, fire departments, correctional facilities and hospitals.

Additionally, Solargenix intends to develop a regional network of dealers and installers to market the solar thermal products and systems built in Chicago. The use of solar thermal products and systems for cooling, space heating, water heating and process heat in city buildings will expand on the policies and programs the city has recently undertaken to reduce energy use in buildings and increase the city's use of "green" technologies.

Source: Texas Renewable Energy Industries Association



JOIN US in the common goal of promoting solar/renewable technologies, providing energy education and establishing a sustainable energy network. Your support today can help provide a cleaner environment tomorrow.

NEW MEMBERSHIP **RENEWAL** **2 YEAR RENEWAL (Deduct 10%)**

Name:	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500/yr Charter Business Membership
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Email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional Contribution of \$

Dues and contributions are tax-deductible. Please mail your check (payable to ISEA) and this form to:

Illinois Solar Energy Association P.O. Box 634 Wheaton, IL 60189-0634



UPCOMING EVENTS

September 18th (Saturday) ISEA Fall Membership Meeting
Mendota Hills Wind Farm, Lee County, IL
(see page 2)

October 2nd (Saturday) National Solar Tour 2004
(see page 3)



Current Members: To keep ISEA costs low and to save the environment, ISEA does NOT send annual dues invoices. Please check the address label on this edition of Heliographs! If the date on the label is highlighted, then your dues may be overdue! Use the enclosed application to mail your renewal! Thanks!



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