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American Institute of Building Design (AIBD)
American Society of Interior Designers (ASID)
Certified Aging in Place Specialists (CAPS)
Certified Graduate Remodeler (CGR)

About ABD

Associates in Building & Design, LTD. is a Northern Colorado design and building company located in Fort Collins. ABD specializes in remodeling, interior design, custom homes and commercial tenant finish.

Staff members certifications include Certified Green Professionals, Certified Graduate Remodeler, Certified National Council for Interior Design Qualification, American Society of Interior Design Professional, LEED Professional, Certified Professional Building Designer, and Certified Aging in Place Specialists.

To help you with any project, please call any of our educated and experienced staff.

Green minded

The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) recently announced a program to expand the residential green building market around the country. "There's lots of confusion between the different green building programs in the residential markets, and when people are confused they hesitate to take action on building green homes," adds Matthew Libby, USGBC's manager of residential alliances. "So we partner to help educate [consumers] about the different green building programs."

LEED accreditation and National Association of Home Builders' "Certified Green Professionals" can be the secret. President Obama embraces green jobs and has proposed spending more than \$100 billion over the next 10 years promoting

alternative, renewable energy sources, and conservation. All trades need to be green-minded, not just interior designers, architects, engineers, contractors – all parts of the industry – subcontractors, inspectors, suppliers & vendors are transforming to accommodate sustainability.

ABD's staff strives to always learn and acquire the accreditations. Many are CGP's and LEED AP to not only better ourselves, we hope to help educate our clients as well. And think of the green jobs market that will drive the workforce, environmental experience and accreditation will be rewarded.

Information from "Custom Homes" magazine and "Contract" magazine.

NAHBR
REMODELERS
2007 NATIONAL
REMODELER
OF THE YEAR

COLORADO
ASSOCIATION OF
HOME BUILDERS
2008 COLORADO
HOME BUILDER
OF THE YEAR

ABD CLIENT TIMES

DESIGN / BUILD

Fall 2009



Welcome to the fall edition of the 'ABD Client Times'

The ABD team as always hopes that you summer season was a grand one! We at ABD have been working hard to make sure we are staying on the cutting edge of our times by keeping up with our education on products, codes, standards and all are involved with making sure we are the type of company you

desire to do business with. We always will do what it takes to make sure our valuable clientele benefits from our professionalism and from our knowledge of our industry!

At any time, we encourage you to contact us not only for the new projects, but for feedback on ones we've already completed as well. We want to make sure you know we are available to be of service to you. Yes, we are busy and

thankful for that, but you, our past and repeating customers are the best! and now is *Never a Better Time* to hire ABD!

Thank you very much for you past and continued support. Although, we don't always express it, we are thankful and blessed to have such a great mass of people to work for. Please enjoy your fall and hopefully winter holds off for a bit anyway!

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Words of wisdom

"It's unwise to pay too much, but it's also unwise to pay too little. When you pay too much all you lose is a little money. But, when you pay too little, you stand a chance of losing everything because the thing you bought is incapable of doing what you bought it to do. The common law of business balance prohibits paying a little and getting a lot. It just can't be done. So, when you deal with the low bidder, it's wise to put a little aside to take care of the risk you run. And, if you do that, you can afford something better."

By John Ruskin,
English philosopher

Have you Consider Phased Projects?

"Residential remodels are no longer those once-in-a-lifetime projects that keep homeowners dreaming years on end before they ever hire a contractor. Instead, many homeowners opt to do a series of remodels as their schedules, budgets and lifestyles evolve over time. In fact, according to a recent Consumer Reports poll on home remodeling, 36% of homeowners who plan to remodel plan to do so in phases.

Phased remodeling projects, can go over several months and even years. For example, homeowners might opt to start slow with a remodel to a powder room or closet and then tackle a larger project, such as the kitchen, master bath or home addition.

These phased remodeling projects are part of a larger trend in American consciousness, which Trendwatching calls "Foreverism." It speaks to people's desire to continue conversations, relationships and projects over time.

Technology is driving people's ability to find, follow, interact and collaborate forever with anyone



Linden, Bartels & Noe reception by ABD Designers

and anything, and home improvement is just one of the areas benefiting from the trend."

If you are considering any project, and can't fund the entire scope of work, call ABD. We will help you

determine how you can phase your project to help extend the costs over time so you can save more money or find funding to achieve your goals. *Never a Better Time!*

Quotes from "HousingZone.com

Partner Rewards winners named

We are very pleased to announce the many rewards that have been earned by our clients! To date, the following have been rewarded gift certificates to the Fort Collins Downtown Business Association:

Dave and Syl Holdt
Lorrie and Jeanette Walls
Steve and Alice Dortsch
Joan Milne
Erik and Lisa Runstrom
Scott and Betsy Gammon
Aaron and Maureen McCarthy
Bahman and Zari Pirasteh

These consist of two \$500.00, one \$300.00, and five \$200.00 gift certificates. And there are eight more eligible rewards slated to go out yet this year! In addition, numerous dinner gift certificates have been sent for referrals of a new client.

To be a winner with ABD, hire ABD and/or refer your family and friends to us!

Remember, the program allows past or new clients the opportunity to win rewards by contracting with ABD for an interior design, retail, remodel, commercial tenant finish, or new construction project.

Please go to our website, www.abd-ltd.com for details on how to become an ABD Partner. *Never a Better Time!*

From our clients

"We're really happy with the way things turned out and how quickly (Associates in Building and Design) got the job done. Adam Miller was extremely easy to work with and very friendly, he really listened to us and helped us get through the process."

- Dave and Syl Holdt

"Everyone loves the new building and so much of that response is due to your tremendous interior design contribution. I am so grateful you participated in the project! Many thanks for everything."

- Anne White and the Elks BPOE804

Something you may not know about ABD

Sharing experience with the industry's future

Colorado State University has an excellent interior design program, accredited by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation. As part of the curriculum, students are required to work in a professionals' firm as an intern and may receive course credit. Each semester, ABD accepts CSU or another university's student to gain experience in the design/build environment. It is so refreshing when students arrive at ABD enthusiastic and

ready to learn. They are like sponges! We are proud as we hear from our former students when they land jobs and are successful. Many of you may remember our student intern from last summer, Sophie Pearson. Sophie moved to Austin, Texas and landed a job already!

Here is an excerpt from her email letter stating her firm belief that her internship contributed to her job search success when the market is extremely tight:

"I think one of the things that makes me stand out more than the competition is the fact that I have design experience, and the only people I can thank for that are you two (Rita Peterson and Amy Fink). You gave me the opportunity to be a design intern, and from that opportunity I learned so much. It was an invaluable experience to get an idea of what "real-world" design encompasses, and along the way I also realized what a great firm I was working for, and fantastic people that I was working with. I can't thank you enough... I hope that everything is going well for you two... in business, in life... I can't reiterate enough how great it was to meet you and be part of your team. Arrivederci, Sophie"

DESIGN



Rita Peterson, ASID, CAPS
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Lean thinking

Lean Thinking. Getting lean today applies to both business and personal arenas.

To quote Joe Moss, in business, lean should not imply "doing more with fewer people".

Lean is a commitment by every person in the company to not only reduce waste, reduce costs, streamline processes, and be more efficient.

To be successful, you have to have every employee's buy-in to Lean Thinking. Employees with experience in the business, knowledge of the tools and techniques, and "soft" skills that allow them to put their experience and knowledge to use are successful.

At ABD we know our staff has bought in.

Never Is it a Better Time to hire ABD's design and construction staff for your home or business.

Our suppliers and vendors have bought in.

Projects are affordable. and we are here to help you, to create your dream with creativity, resourcefulness, integrity, and to benefit from our greatest gift, you as a satisfied customer.

With the economic climate today, ABD's Lean Thinking Employees' commitment is to every client.

Never a Better Time to call ABD.

Rita Peterson finalist for the Northern Colorado Women of Influence award

Northern Colorado Business Report recently sponsored the first Northern Colorado Women of Influence Awards.

Rita is honored to have been nominated and selected as a finalist.

Women with outstanding achievements, unique challenges in leadership and those who mentor others in their career are a few of the women business leaders' attributes recognized.

Rita thanks her peers and clients whose contributions made this possible.

BUILD



Bob D. Peterson, CGR, CAPS, CGP
General Contractor
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Sooner than later

We at ABD are wishing you all a glorious fall this year. We are so blessed in living in one of the best areas and countries in the world. Too many times we short sell this great country and even our own Northern Colorado Front Range. We are blessed!

I want to encourage any of you whom are thinking of projects whether they be Design, Remodel or even new homes to think about doing it sooner than later. I am no economist, but with the rate that

our federal government is racking up debt, I believe that inflation and higher taxes are certainly on the horizon in the future. That being said, I want to invite you to contact us to discuss any projects you may be thinking about. I can just about guarantee that there is *Never a Better Time* to improve your home or business.

Future costs, rising interest rates, rising taxes, increased code requirements will continue to increase the cost of construction as

we move forward as the leader in housing and lifestyle in this world and more specifically in the Front Range of Colorado. After all, we all live here for a reason, right? No better place!

We appreciate more than you can imagine the support you give ABD with your projects and referrals. ABD will continue to work hard to design, develop, build and stand behind your improvements no matter what they are!

Enjoy your Fall Season!