

Every obstacle in life has a **design** solution.

January 2019, Volume 5, Issue 49

December is a Special Month for Me

Several years ago a tradition was started in my house hold. Every year in December my daughter and I would build a gingerbread structure. It started with a simple request in the supper market. "Dad, can we buy the gingerbread kit to make a gingerbread house this year?" Well, being an architect the only answer could be that if we were going to build a gingerbread house it would NOT be from a kit. We would select a building that was special in some way.

Our first year we built the house I designed for the family and made the gingerbread house 30 inches across. Each year since then we selected a well know structure for our gingerbread project. The second year we a gingerbread created Lincoln Center which is in Manhattan, New York City. The third year created a gingerbread Main Branch of the New York Public Library including the lions out in front who are named Patience and Fortitude. The forth year we created a gingerbread 36 inch tall Eiffel Tower which is of courser in Paris, France. The French Embassy in Washington D.C. requested it for their Christmas party. The fifth year we went really BIG! My daughter in college in Chicago could see the Sears Tower from her room, so that is what we did in gingerbread. But we as I said went really BIG. The gingerbread Sears Tower is about 60 inches tall. That needed additional gingerbread supports inside ion it to help hold up all of the weight of the gingerbread. The next year we took a chance and decided to build the Leaning Tower of Pisa, in Pisa Italy. This one was only 30 inches tall but it is round and leaning which created some interesting obstacles to overcome.

They can all be found on the company's web site (designMgroup.com) in about a month, or on the company's and my personal facebook pages now.

This year we selected the Space Needle in Seattle, Washington. Primarily Bec cause my daughter promised a friend who is from Seattle to create a gingerbread structure of a building in Seattle. Our gingerbread Space Needle is about 40 inches tall. Next year we will

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Did You Know ?

We are the leading local provider of tools and resources for people planning on adding on to, renovating or building a home.

We have several consumer guilds to help you.

One of our recent publications is...

"The 10 Advantages of Design Build"



Down load it here and share it with

Archi-fact.

The Space Needle was once the tallest structure west of the Mississippi River. It is 605 feet tall, 138 feet wide and weighs 8,660 tons. It is built to withstand winds of up to 200 mph and earthquakes of up to a 9.0 magnitude which is as strong the 1700 Cascade earthquake. It also has 25 lightning rods.

Iconic Building Of The Month

Seattle Space Needle, Seattle, Washington

The Space Needle is an observation tower in Seattle, Washington, a landmark of the Pacific Northwest and an icon of Seattle. It was built in the Seattle Center for the 1962 World's Fair, which drew over 2.3 million visitors.



photo credit: wikipedia

The Space Needle has an observation deck at 520 feet and the rotating SkyCity restaurant at 500 feet. The downtown Seattle skyline, as well as the Olympic and Cascade Mountains, Mount Rainier, Mount Baker, Elliott Bay and surrounding islands can be viewed from the top of the Needle.

Photographs of the Seattle skyline often show the Space Needle prominently, above skyscrapers and Mount Rainier

Visitors can reach the top of the Space Needle by elevators that travel at 10 mph. The trip takes 41 seconds. On windy days, the elevators slow to 5 mph. On April 19, 1999, the city's Landmarks Preservation Board designated it a historic landmark.

The architecture of the Space Needle is the result of a compromise between the designs of two men, Edward E. Carlson and John Graham, Jr. The two leading ideas for the World Fair involved businessman Edward E. Carlson's sketch of a giant balloon tethered to the ground (see the gently sloping base) and architect John Graham's concept of a flying saucer (see the halo that houses the restaurant and observation deck). Victor Steinbrueck introduced the hourglass profile of the tower.

Archi-Quote

The World's Fair that the Space Needle was built for was opened on Saturday, April 21, 1962 by the then President John F. Kennedy, remotely from Palm Beach, Florida where he was enjoying an Easter Weekend vacation. His words were broadcast over the loud speakers through out the Fair grounds and entrance areas. Right before pressing the button he said of the World's Fair...

"I am honored to open Seattle's World's Fair today. What we show was achieved with great effort in the fields of science, technology, and industry."

December is a Special Month for Me

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start keeping track of the quantity of ingredients we use and save the patterns on each piece for those who would like to try this on their own. Even though we do not enter our creation into contests, we do follow the international rules for creating gingerbread structures. The most important of which is that everything used in the gingerbread structure **MUST** be edible.

This Space Needle is made from gingerbread and royal frosting. The antenna is made from uncooked spaghetti and covered in fondant frosting. The trucks off the trees are made from pretzel sticks and the tops of the trees and bushes are made of popcorn which is dyed with green food coloring mixed with some red food coloring to get the right shade of green.



photo credit: Gorgon William Burkhart

Archi-Speak

Can you find these words for this Month's Iconic building?

Space	Needle	Tower
Seattle	Observation	

H U X A X K R A K Y K C S S E
 N V R Q H B I V L Q S O Y L T
 I O H Q M H D F O V G S W Q V
 H O I Q D Y E K I B C Z M D M
 O A U T U U E F J A W I S A U
 T X S P A C E G Y S I E G G E
 B O A I C V A J B A L I I O K
 E M W C Q M R H V D Q J G H J
 L A Y E P U E E E S W M R Q F
 T I X Y R H F E S U R I U N Q
 T C O A S L N E K B C W F S H
 A K P X U T F H K U O P V U A
 E G B X Q T Y H M K J Z R D L
 S E B M K U D X N L F M M U W
 Q U U N H P M G A U Y C X A O

Ask M

In the James Bond books and movies the character "M" heads the Secret British Intelligence Service known as MI 6, of which James Bond is Agent 007. When contemplating adding on to your home or building, renovating or building a new home or building you should have someone like "M" on your side. Each month the "Ask M" column will answer a reader's question to place more information at your finger tips. **This month's question is...**

Are castles energy efficient?

Jane N.

Jane,

The walls are usually very thick which holds the heat of the sun into the night in winters and keeps the inside cooler in the summer. However they are not energy efficient or comfortable by today's standards

Email your questions to info@designMgroup.com, and in the subject line type in "Ask M". We look forward to hearing from you and hope we can answer the questions to everyone's satisfaction.

Want to speak with the Architect

Do you have questions but do not know where to start?

Do you know the legal consequences of starting a project without approvals?

Are you sure you have completed all of the research necessary so as not to waste your money and time during construction?

Are what you think are your NEEDS and OPTIONS truly the best for you and your future?

Does the contractor really have YOUR best interest in mind when suggesting solutions?

Answering these questions and more are the reason for enlisting a Needs and Options Review.

We can help you on your way to a successful project with less hassles and problems.

Visit: www.designMgroup.com

About

Marcus Marino, RA, AIA, NCARB
President



photo credit: Jenna Glatzer

Marcus Marino, RA, AIA, NCARB is a leading architect in New York City. He received a Bachelors of Architecture from the prestigious Pratt Institute and a Masters in the Science of Architecture and Urban Design from Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. He received his license to practice architecture in New York State in 1981 and is licensed in a number of other States. Marcus Marino has served on numerous Governmental Panels and serves as an expert consultant to other architectural firms and legal firms. He is the former Vice President of Public Advocacy of the New York State American Institute of Architects.

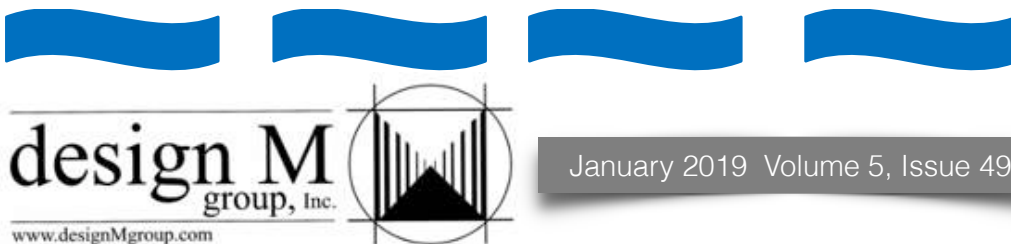
Our core beliefs are ...

Architects have a responsibility to our clients, community and the environment.

Architects should help provide information to our fellow world citizens about their homes, offices and the built environment in general.

Your Home should move you emotionally like your favorite song does.

Let Us Help You Build the Home You Knew Was Always There For You.



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Contact me !

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NCARB