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Local Firm sets out to turn the “Mean, Lean, Green, Dream Home” into a Reality!

February 28, 2008 - Drude S. Corbet, co-founder of The Mobius Company (www.TheMobiusCompany.com) and his wife, Angelina have purchased land in Iredell County to build their “mean, lean, dream, green home” in 2008. The design of their home incorporates ideas from the “the home of the future” as set forth in early 2007 by the National Association of Homebuilders (NAHB). The NAHB study was based on interviews with architects, designers, manufacturers and marketing experts about what they thought the “average” home would look like in 2015.

The “mean” home will be the average size and will cost no more than the average price per square foot to build. The house plan incorporates many of the “desired” features for the typical home listed in the NAHB report, such as 9’ ceilings, a kitchen island, separate office space, front and rear porches and several decks. Likewise, the Corbets plan to include many green features with an eye toward sustainable living, and the use of renewable energies, recycled material and local, healthy products.

Drude was born and raised in Ontario, Canada. He comments, “Before I even knew what it meant to be “green”, I was building homes from old barns and recycled materials. Over the years, I lost touch with my green side as I pursued various careers in manufacturing and technology! Then, at the end of 2004, I left the corporate world and went back to school. At 56, I started my green consulting practice and my dream to build green was resurrected.” Drude also plans to incorporate lean features such as rain catchment, water conservation, day lighting and use of native plants.

As one of the first graduates in the Certificate Program in The Renewable Energy Diploma Series at North Carolina State, Drude acts as a consultant on projects as they relate to sustainable living, managing renewable energy, building green and using alternative fuels. Working with clients, Drude created the idea of “Mobius living”: living compassionately in the world by honoring Mother Earth – her land, air, water and inhabitants. He sees this project as a way to put his “money where his mouth is.”

Drude and his wife are partnering with Charlotte architect Jim Gleeson, AIA (www.design-integration.net). According to Drude, “We brought our original concept plan to Jim and he told us he would challenge himself to make it even simpler and more energy efficient – which he did! We are all delighted at the outcome.”

Jim Gleeson has been a pioneer in the field of green design for many years. He was doing passive solar as far back as 1975 and more recently became one of the first three LEED™ Accredited Professionals in the Carolinas in 2000. After founding the Sustainable Design Initiative at one of North Carolinas largest architecture firms, the firm was selected to design the new “Green Quad” Living/Learning Center at USC in Columbia, SC. He led the design team which produced the LEED Silver rated project, saving over 50% in energy use and costing no more than conventional university dorms. In 2004 he left the firm to specialize in Green Custom Homes in his own firm. cont’ on Page 2

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Jim states, "I really enjoy the immediacy and involvement with home owners in helping them achieve both a highly personal custom home AND one which is healthy and resource efficient. Working with passionate people like the Corbets to create a solution that is architecturally unique, cost-effective and sustainable is very rewarding. Together with The Mobius Company and its partners, we are developing a passive solar home which will use very little energy for heating and cooling and will demonstrate the practical marketability of holistic, green design."

Drude and his wife are not only building their "dream home" for themselves but they are hoping to serve a greater cause. "It is our goal to build an "average" green home which satisfies the American dream – a home that is affordable, attractive, high quality and low maintenance. We hope to demonstrate that building green is not just for the wealthy; it is well within the reach of the average American family. Drude and his wife plan to use the house as a showcase to educate and empower others to build their own mean, lean dream green home.

Drude and Angelina are inviting other organizations to partner with The Mobius Company in their efforts. They hope to create a collaboration of like-minded organizations – one that is holistic and sustainable, like their home - whose mission is to bring green building to the average American.

You can learn more about the "mean lean dream green home" at www.TheMobiusCompany.com/meanleandreamgreenhome.html

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