



**T**exas **A**ssociation of **B**uilders

March 2008

(800) 252-3625

[www.TexasBuilders.org](http://www.TexasBuilders.org)

## **Training Workshops Have Begun**

TAB's "Beyond Codes – Building Science Technology Workshops" are being held at local associations across the state. These classes, approved by the TRCC for continuing education credit hours, are taught by building scientist Steve Easley. Visit the TAB Web site for dates and call your local HBA to register. Thank you to our partners the State Energy Conservation Office, Energy Systems Laboratory at Texas A&M, U.S. Department of Energy and the North American Insulation Manufacturers Association.

## **Star Awards**

TAB and the Sunbelt Builders Show™ are proud to announce the 2008 Star Awards Gala. The Call for Entries packages will be in the mail by mid-March and will also be available online at our Web site, [www.TexasBuilders.org](http://www.TexasBuilders.org). The Gala will be held on Friday, November 7 at the Gaylord Texan Resort in Grapevine, TX. Come for Sunbelt and stay for The Star Awards.



## **Excellence & Honor**

On the evening of November 8, 2008, the Excellence in Leadership Dinner will be the venue for the inaugural Texas Housing Hall of Honor. The primary mission of the Texas Housing Hall of Honor is to honor men and women who have made significant and lasting contributions to housing in Texas, the building industry, and the Texas Association of Builders (TAB). A secondary purpose is to promote a positive image of the Texas building industry to the public through increased awareness and education.



## **TAB Thanks IBS Partners**

The Texas Reception held during IBS on February 14 was a huge success. Thanks to the hundreds of homebuilders, remodelers, developers, associates and executive officers from Texas and other states who joined us for an afternoon of networking. With so many exhibits and events to attend during the International Builders Show®, thank you for being true to Texas. The evening was made possible with the help of our partners: Platinum Partners- Linear LLC and New Home Guide and Gold Partners- StrucSure Home Warranty, Texas Home Builders Workers Comp Group (administered by Hotchkiss Insurance Agency) and TRANE. We hope you found a moment during the reception to have your photo taken as a memento of a fun event! Plan to join us next year in Las Vegas on Thursday, January 22, 2009 for another Texas sized party.

## **Legal News**

The Texas Attorney General's Office has requested briefs from all interested parties in response to a Request for Opinion from the Comal County Criminal District Attorney regarding the authority of a city/county to regulate density in the ETJ/unincorporated areas through platting. Briefs were requested by last week, but TAB's appeal for an extension until March 31 has been approved. If you are interested in commenting, please e-mail Ned Muñoz at [Ned@TexasBuilders.org](mailto:Ned@TexasBuilders.org). Specifically, the request asks 1) whether a municipality may regulate density through platting within its extraterritorial jurisdiction; and 2) whether a county may regulate density through platting in the unincorporated areas of a county. To view the Request in its entirety, please visit the following Web site and select RG-0664-GA under the year 2008: [http://www.oag.state.tx.us/opin/index\\_rq.shtml](http://www.oag.state.tx.us/opin/index_rq.shtml)

## **TRCC Action**

Texas builders and remodelers made their voices heard loud and clear during the latest TRCC open meeting on February 13. Voicing concerns over the proposed continuing education rules and 3rd party county inspections, more than 30 TAB members packed the TRCC hearing room. The crowd and testimony were a big reason why the commission pulled down the continuing education proposed rules from consideration in order to rewrite them, and addressed several of the concerns TAB had with the proposed county inspection rules that will go into effect September 1, 2008. A huge thank you goes out to everyone who attended and all who helped organize members to attend the open meeting. The crowd of builders made an impression on the commissioners; it is active participation like this that truly makes a difference.