



## PROJECT UPDATES

### Smith Center

On February 25th the Smith Center for the Performing Arts in Las Vegas held a ceremony to celebrate the official topping out of its large performance hall, Reynolds Hall. Las Vegas Mayor Oscar Goodman attended with Smith Center President & CEO Myron Martin, Chairman of the Board Donald Snyder and Donald W. Reynolds Foundation Chairman Fred Smith. The final 50 tons of steel were raised to the top of the 170-foot carillon bell tower and adorned with the traditional pine tree, a symbol of good luck that will ultimately make its permanent home in adjacent Symphony Park.



The final steel is raised at the Smith Center for the Performing Arts in Las Vegas, Nevada.

## DESIGNING FOR AMERICA'S PAST TIMES



Rendering of new exterior façade for Orioles Training Complex in Sarasota, Florida.

With summer just around the corner and baseball season in full swing, we thought we'd share with you some of our past and present sports projects.

Over the past two decades, DMSAS has designed a number of sports venues that have been highly acclaimed and much loved by both architecture critics and sports fans alike. If, however, you asked anyone at DMSAS, they would tell you that we are not "sports architects" – and our clients would agree.

In early 1991, when the owners of the Texas Rangers were considering the development of a new ballpark, David Schwarz offered that there was no need for a competition and they should simply hire DMSAS despite not having previously designed a sports venue. He asserted, rather modestly, that DMSAS understood very well the contextual importance of history, scale and vision and that a good designer can design anything well. The owners, however, elected to continue with the competition, inviting a number of nationally-recognized sports architecture firms, a few larger regional firms, several national design firms and the seeming dark-horse candidate DMSAS. The firm's submission did not simply outline the design of a ballpark, but enumerated a vision of a 320 acre master plan that provided an urban context over which the ballpark would preside. It described a ballpark that was as much a part of baseball as it was of Texas history – the latter being a particular point that resounded with the competition jury and secured the commission.

In 1997, months after DMSAS helped Disney pair a sports architect with their Imagineers team, executives at Disney invited David and Craig Williams to Orlando, to interview to serve as Design Architect for a new sports complex project. In what quickly turned from an interview into the first design meeting for the Disney Wide World of Sports Complex, DMSAS was very sensitive to the importance of creating an  
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Rendering of renovated Buck O'Neil Complex at Twin Lakes.

appropriate vision – though Disney was very good at getting people to suspend disbelief, it was not possible to make one believe they were in a traditional, red-brick baseball stadium setting while they sat in the hot Florida sun. DMSAS worked with Disney’s landscape architects to develop a master plan that created a community of sports neighborhoods linked by a main street that respected the traditional development ideals of American small towns - town, park, woods – and anchored by a Florida-Picturesque style ballpark that serves as the spring training facility for the Atlanta Braves. The Complex now hosts nearly 200 amateur and professional sporting events each year and has been home of the NFL’s Tampa Bay Buccaneers training camp since 2002.

Team owners often talk about sports venues being the impetus for economic development in underperforming areas. In the case of the American Airlines Center, where the team owners controlled 60 acres of former rail yards adjacent to the site, the arena was to serve as the stimulus for the future Victory Plaza. Recognizing this important role for the arena, the firm approached the competition interview not with a picture of a finished design for the arena, but, instead, by presenting the firm’s design approach and the process of idea, refinement and dialogue between architect and client that is particularly essential for a project of this size and scope. It was only through the master planning process, during which the vision for the entire neighborhood was established, that the site’s future as a dense, pedestrian-oriented development, and the siting and eventual character of the American Airlines Center, as well as that of the now emerging Victory Plaza, could be determined.

The initial design for the Dr Pepper Ballpark, home of the Frisco Rough Riders, was born out of a tight budget and short schedule. The typical large structural steel required for most ballpark seating bowls was abandoned in favor of a less expensive option that built the bowl directly into the hillside and aligned the upper most tier of seats with the concourse and park at grade. The concourse consists of a series of lightweight pavilions detailed in the coastal vernacular of Galveston which establish a smaller, more intimately scaled setting. The final design provides a unique park setting in which families can  
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Master Plan for Texas Rangers Ballpark in Arlington, Texas.

## PROJECT UPDATES

### Cooks Children's Medical Center

Construction continues at a fast clip on the latest expansion of the Cook Children's Medical Center in Fort Worth. The month of May brings with it the topping out of the North Tower, the reopening of the expanded North Garage and Helipads, and the start of excavation for the new Medical Office Building. Final completion is expected in late 2011/early 2012. For the latest views of the site, take a look at the construction web cam at:

<http://oxblue.com/pro/open/cookchildrens/ccmc>.



Aerial Image of Cook Children's Medical Center Campus. Photo by Aerial Photography, Inc. c/o Linbeck

### DMSAS Featured in Traditional Building Magazine

DMSAS was profiled in the April Issue of Traditional Building Magazine. The article was written by architectural historian and longtime Old-House Journal Editor Gordon Bock and can be viewed in full online at <http://www.traditional-building.com/Previous-Issues-10/AprilProfile10.html>.

picnic, kids can play and together they can rediscover the way that baseball was observed in its early days. The DMSAS master plan for the 65-acre site called for the field to be the central park of a neighborhood that mixes multi-family residential, hotel, office, retail, dining and entertainment uses.

When the Baltimore Orioles selected DMSAS in the fall of 2009, they again were not looking for your typical sports architecture firm. With the recent signing of a 30-year commitment to Ed Smith Stadium and the Buck O'Neil Complex at Twin Lakes Park in Sarasota, Florida, the Orioles wanted to create a place that they could call home not just during spring training, but year-round as a rehabilitation complex for both their major and minor league teams. From the start, it was important that the master plan unite the programmatic elements of the site while maintaining the more casual, intimate fan experience that spring training and minor league baseball allow and that the architecture reinforcing these ideals with a careful nod to the history and attitude of the location.

In order to meet budget and schedule conditions, it was quickly apparent that the project could not support a raze-and-rebuild mentality, but that through expansion, renovation and re-skinning, one could greatly change the perception and feel of the existing buildings. The plan calls for a new 85,000 SF concourse wrapping around and preserving the existing 6,500-seat bowl. The concourse will include new fan amenities and staff offices, luxury and party suites, as well as an extended roof structure that will provide more shading to the 1,500 seats being added to the bowl. A 13,000 SF addition to the Ed Smith clubhouse provides state of the art weight, training and hydrotherapy rooms, along with a complete renovation of the existing locker and dining spaces that will transform the player experience.

Inspiration for the detailing of the buildings came from research DMSAS did on architecture of traditional ballparks such Camden Yards, Forbes Field and the former Payne Park, as well as the many historic buildings found in and around Sarasota. In providing these contextual, visual cues to the visitor, we hope invoke their feelings of nostalgia, making them feel more at home. In particular the colonnaded façade of the Ringling Museum, the delineated massing of the Sarasota Court House and the playful details of Addison Mizner each influenced the design character of the buildings at Ed Smith. Similarly, the design style known as Sarasota Modern, as seen in the Sarasota City Hall and High School addition, provided references for the character of the clubhouse at Twin Lakes.

We look forward to construction of the Orioles' training complexes later this year for occupancy in the Spring of 2011 when we again will hear the words, "Play Ball!"



Dr Pepper Ballpark, home of the Frisco Rough Riders in Frisco, Texas.

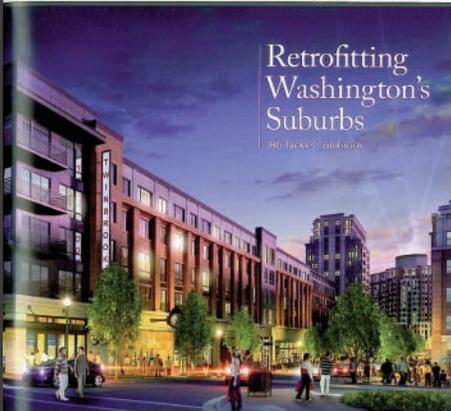
## PROJECT UPDATES

### Gaillard Auditorium

The Mayor of Charleston and a group of private citizens raising funds for the renovation of the Gaillard Auditorium in Charleston, South Carolina have approved a concept design and preliminary budget. The Mayor will present the project to the City Council which is expected to take action in early June.

### Twinbrook Neighborhood

Associate Jon Zubiller co-wrote an article with JBG's Tony Greenberg for the February Issue of the Washington Building Congress's Bulletin. "Sustainably Retrofitting Washington's Suburbs: JBG Tackles Twinbrook" focused on the revitalization of the Twinbrook neighborhood of Rockville, Maryland and highlighted the on-going planning and re-zoning efforts that are so critical to the success of future projects along Rockville Pike. A PDF of the article can be downloaded from the WBC website [http://www.wbcnet.org/current\\_issue.htm](http://www.wbcnet.org/current_issue.htm)



Washington Building Congress  
BULLETIN February Edition

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: JON ZUBILLER

Jon Zubiller, an Associate at DMSAS, has been with the firm for nine years. He has worked on a number of the firm's master planning projects, including Duke Central Campus Master Plan, Firewheel Town Center and Southlake Town Square. Jon is a LEED Accredited professional and serves as in-house webmaster for DMSAS.

### Why did you become an architect?

Like many "young architects", I really enjoyed making new creations with Lincoln Logs, blocks and LEGOs. In the 8th grade, while taking a technology course in which we designed, drafted, built and tested-to-failure balsa wood bridges, I realized that one could actually do this as a profession and I was hooked.

### Where did you study architecture and what was the most important thing you learned there?

Growing up in a small town on Long Island, with a Main Street dating back to the late 1700's and New York City a short train ride away, I feel I've had the opportunity to study great architecture most of my life. My formal training, however, was at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh where I received degrees in both Architecture and Civil and Environmental Engineering. The inter-disciplinary program style taught me that architecture is not just buildings – it's a mixed environment of spaces, people, culture and materials all interacting with each other.

### What are you working on now?

I am continuing construction document review for the Orioles' Training Complex in Sarasota, Florida, which is scheduled to open for the 2011 Spring Training Season, as well as design on two private apartments.

### What's your favorite part of your job?

It might sound a little cliché, but I really enjoy interacting with my co-workers and our clients. I consider myself quite lucky to have found a firm that has attracted wonderful people on both sides of the drawing board.

### What do you do when you are not working?

If I'm not working on my own "new" house (a 1914 Wardman in DC) with my wife and preparing for our first child, I can usually be found on a baseball diamond or training for my next race with a run in Rock Creek Park.

### What are your "must have" office supplies?

A stack of red pilot pens, a roll of trace and someone else's scale.

### What's your "go-to" office lunch?

A bag lunch or some chicken biryani from Naan & Beyond, the Indian take-out place across the street from our office; either way, I'm eating it in Farragut Park.

### What's your favorite building of all time and why? (anywhere)

It's hard to think of a single favorite as each of one has aspects that make it unique for me. The Chrysler Building for its recycled radiator top and hood ornament gargoyles, the Mezquita in Cordoba, Spain for its horse-shoe double arches and mix of religious architectures and the Royal Crescent in Bath, England for its detailed simplicity.

### Words you live by or favorite quote?

I actually have two:

"If you build it, he will come", whispered in a corn field in Iowa by Shoeless Joe Jackson.

"Architecture is simply music frozen in stone", adapted from Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

## FAMILY NEWS



**DMSAS Servathon Team in front of the historic carousel clockwise from back left: Dave Brawner, Kent Tittle, John Herrington, Gregory Hoss, Alex Dickson, Rhiannon Schroth, Craig Williams, Brook Denison, Michael Swartz, Chris Teigen**

David M. Schwarz Architects formed a team of volunteers to join with the Greater DC Cares Servathon 2010. The DC Servathon is the largest day of volunteering in the Metro region with over 7,000 volunteers participating in projects at schools and nonprofits throughout the area. The DMSAS Team joined in the fun at Glen Echo Park. Glen Echo Park is a public park and national historic district in Glen Echo Maryland. It began in 1891 as a National Chautauqua Assembly, and operated as an amusement park until 1968. Since 1971, the park has been part of the National Park Service and hosts an arts education program in the spirit of the original Chautauqua movement. Glen Echo is known for the antique Dentzel Carousel originally installed in 1921 and the historic 1930s Spanish Mission style Ballroom. Our volunteers spent the day cleaning and painting a performance stage and planting trees. Everyone worked hard, had a great time, and at the end of the day, got a ride on the carousel!

Isaac Smith and wife Lauren welcomed their first baby into their family on March 22nd. Lily Isabella Smith arrived at 3:40pm, weighing 6 lbs 14 oz and measuring 19.25 inches long.

Dave Derenick and wife Jess welcomed their second son into their family on April 21st. Lucian Daye Derenick arrived at 6:54pm, weighing 8 lbs 1 oz and measuring 21 inches long.

Welcome to our newest employees! Camden McClelland joined DMSAS as an Intern Architect on April 12th. Camden was a 2008 DMSAS Summer Fellow from Notre Dame and returns to us full-time after graduating in 2009 with a Bachelor of Architecture. Alice Enz joined DMSAS as an Intern Architect on April 19th. Alice graduated from Notre Dame in 2009 with a Masters in Architecture.

We are proud to announce the selection of our 2010 DMSAS Fellows: John Kucia (University of Maryland), Mark Talbot (Yale University), Amanda Miller (Undergraduate from University of Notre Dame), and William Seath (Graduate Student from University of Notre Dame). For more on the DMSAS Fellowships, please visit <http://www.dmsas.com/Fellowships/>.

Best wishes to all in the David M. Schwarz Architects family celebrating a birthday this spring: Sandra Smart (March 1st), Chris Teigen (March 6th), Jerry Marshall (March 8th), Kathryn Garrett (March 9th), Jennifer Stinson (March 22nd), Timothy So (March 23rd), Isaac Bonilla (March 25th), Gregory Hoss (March 29th), Dave Fruzynski (April 2nd), Michael Swartz (April 7th), John Herrington (April 12th), Eric Jackman (April 14th), Tom Greene (April 19th), Dave Brawner (May 4th), Jeffrey Loman (May 11th), Alex Dickson (May 15th), Kent Tittle (May 20th).

## PROJECT UPDATES

### University of South Carolina

Construction at the University of South Carolina Upstate's George Dean Johnson, Jr College of Business and Economics is nearing completion. The opening Gala and Ribbon Cutting ceremony will be held May 12th and 13th 2010. Now that the building is taking shape it is generating much interest in the community and with the University. BMW has donated money for naming rights on the flagship tiered classroom and the president of the entire University of South Carolina system has commented that the building is the finest in their system and has set a new bar for construction. The first classes are scheduled for Summer of 2010 with full occupancy in the fall of 2010.



**"The George" opens this week in Spartanburg, South Carolina.**

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Readers,  
We welcome your feedback and comments to our newsletter. Submissions can be sent to [newsletter@dmsas.com](mailto:newsletter@dmsas.com) for potential inclusion in our next edition!