

EAGA Business Builder

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Today's speaker was Ken Easley - Empire Builders



Ken grew up in Dallas and first began in the construction industry while in the general neighborhood. In Austin, he was involved in construction projects like the Texas Supreme Court Building and Attorney General Office building. It wasn't long, however, before Ken's construction knowledge, and his adventurous spirit, took him to Russia, where he supervised the building of Siberia's Olympic Sports and Training Facility. That was a pretty good accomplishment, made even more so, because Ken arrived there without any ability to speak or understand Russian. By the time an interpreter could be procured (6 months later), Mr. Easley had already become fluent in the language.

Successful completion of the sports facility was not the only major benefit of Ken's Siberian trip.

While there, Ken also met, and married his wife Lena. Together they moved back to the USA, and

to Albuquerque, where Ken worked for nearly 18 years as the Area Supervisor for Flintco; and where he and Lena have raised their family. Son, Justin is a superintendent at Flintco; Daughter Natsia is headed for a military adventure (she is also a past contestant for Miss Teen New Mexico); Son, Lee owns Easley Comfort Heating & Air Conditioning in Cedar Crest; and youngest son, Kendal attends Albuquerque Academy where he is involved in baseball on the school team, and as a member of the ABQ Flames in the local AAD/USSSA Youth Baseball association. Lena keeps quite busy as Office Manager at Empire Builders; but really, her greatest accomplishment (second only to raising a great family) is the ongoing work - using the extensive subject knowledge that she acquired while earning her degree in English - to minimize Ken's Texas accent. Speaking of Empire Builders: this is the company that Ken started after leaving Flintco a couple of years ago. Empire has already performed some major construction accomplishments. They have worked on a portion of the Convention Center expansion; construction or renovation of various Title Max buildings; a variety of hospital expansion projects; Cutter Aviation office renovation; Altura Business Center and the construction of a building for Modern Eyez, an Optometrist in Rio Rancho. See a list of the many projects that have been completed, or are in progress, on Empire's website <http://www.empirebuildersllc.com/projects.html>. Empire Builder's approach to a project is what sets them apart from other companies in their industry. Working in specific phases, 1) their staff takes the project's concept budget (the initial plan that was derived from historical information and thoughts); 2) the Empire Design Review phase (where they evaluate things like the application of logical techniques, and industry standards for materials and sources, to tweak the project with the goal of minimizing material and labor costs while keeping the best quality for the end product); 3) Final Budget (the project's ultimate design and details). The overall result is most often a reduction in the initial expected cost, leaving the client with the ability to save money, or add items that were originally not thought to be available. If you have an upcoming building, remodel or renovation type project, you should contact Ken to see what service Empire can provide. Contact Ken at 505-281-2220 He can help you 'Do It Right! Do It Now!'

- ◆ Summer Bash is almost here. This next Tuesday, June 30th, is our final meeting before the Bash (no meeting July 7th). If you have not yet signed up to attend, please do so this Tuesday. The Bash is July 11th at the home of Pat and Mary Beth Maloy. 10801 Elena NE. Cocktails at 5:00PM; Dinner at 7:00PM; There will be appetizers, steaks, smoked pork, chicken and all the amenities...and something with which to wash it all down. We expect great social atmosphere and spirited competitions at all the games. We look forward to seeing you and your significant other at the Maloy's. Don't forget adult guests are welcome, at a cost of only \$25 each.
- ◆ Thank You to Mike Williams for hosting an Open House at Builders Source. They have a HUGE showroom full of interesting; amazing; technologically advanced appliances, machinery and stuff. Mike has a device, not just a coffee pot, that is capable of making coffee; or Espresso, or a double latte, with a shot of whatever that additive is--and it can remember your favorite setting for push button recall later. He displayed the new ovens that cook with steam, keeping flavors; nutrition and moisture in the food - and they do put a nice brown crust on it. He had induction top stoves that use some sort of molecule exciting process in the pan instead of heated burners. Many, many, many more neat things--stop by Builders Source to see them all for yourself.

Contact information for Executive Director: Mario Hernandez

Phone: 505-239-0259

email: hernmar129@yahoo.com

Postal mail: 8100 Wyoming Blvd NE; Suite M-4 #345; Albuquerque, NM 87113

Business Leads:

Peerless Tires is opening at 3321 San Mateo NE. The old Carworks location.

JPR Decorative Gravel has opened at the old "Bill Stange" location, SW corner of Princeton and Candelaria.

Morales Auto Glass Tinting has opened at the NE corner of Princeton and Candelaria.

Sushi King restaurant is opening at Rio Bravo and Coors SW.

Cocina Azul, New Mexico Cuisine is going in 4243 Montgomery NE.

- Lionel Specter - Zeon Signs

◆ First announcement of prospective new members:

Bernitski Vision

Category: Vision Correction Surgery

Representative: David Bernitski, Owner

Sponsor: Mark Tobiassen

Suits Unlimited

Category: Menswear - Retail

Representative: Steven Garcia, President

Sponsor: Michael Dennis / Kevin Lorenzen

- ◆ If you have an objection to either of these companies becoming a member, or if you have any information that you feel should be considered during the application review process, please contact Jack Zipper, Committee Chairman, as soon as possible

Badge Board Greeters

June 30th	Raul Rodriguez - Kings of Wrap
July 7th	Forth of July Holiday Week - NO MEETING
July 14th	Klint Hall—Lobo Wealth Strategies
July 21st	Michael Dennis - HUB Insurance
July 28th	Manuel Ortega - Ortega's Appliance Service
Aug 4th	Michael Edwards - New York Life
Aug 11th	
Aug 18th	

Upcoming Speakers

June 30th	Gary Beck - Concentra Medical Centers
July 7th	Forth of July Holiday Week - NO MEETING
July 14th	Patrick Garr - Expense Reductions Analysts
July 21st	Rion Marcus - New Mexico Chiropractic Center
July 28th	Round table discussion
Aug 4th	Michael Dennis - HUB Insurance
Aug 11th	
Aug 18th	Dave Giddens - Law Office of George "Dave" Giddens