The Greener Living Club at Sullivan College of Technology and Design was the inspiration of Interior Design graduate Mercedes Kern. The organization officially began operating in July, 2008 with adjunct instructors Debra Althaus and Beth Gnadinger as faculty sponsors. The club promotes green activities, and awareness, and supports the College’s recycling efforts. The faculty advisors and students placed recycling receptacles for white paper at key areas on the campus. The club also placed a receptacle for plastic bottles and cans in the student break room. The College’s students and staff have embraced the effort and have reduced much of the waste usually placed in the dumpster for removal. Students and faculty regularly remove the paper, bottles, and cans, and take them to the Southeast Government Center for recycling.

The College also recycles all toner/ink cartridges used throughout the campus. Sullivan College of Technology and Design has also partnered with Rangeland Elementary School, which recycles the cartridges to support its own programs and services.

The Club sustains its efforts through fundraising activities, and selling hotdogs, pizza, and baked goods to increase awareness of the club and its purpose. Proceeds are used to purchase additional recycling receptacles. Students have created and placed signage throughout the building to increase student awareness of the location of receptacles, and reminding students to use them appropriately.

Watch for new sustainable energy and greener efforts employed by the campus in upcoming issues of Techniques. Thanks for the vision of the Greener Living Club for keeping the college’s focus on issues of sustainable energy, energy conservation, and the concepts of reduce, reuse, and recycle.

Canstruction

In 2009, the Construction Judges’ Choice winner was SCTD’s entry, “No Hungry Homes,” a modern living room constructed with non-perishable food items. Tony Jackson, Interior Design BA program student, designed and supervised the actual construction of this exhibit benefiting the Dare to Care food bank. Other Interior Design students helped with the construction (see Techniques Vol. 2, 2009, page 3).

The project was an activity of the SCTD student chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers. The exhibit looked spectacular, and benefited Dare to Care by helping to feed hungry people in our community. Although the project did not win in national competitions, it continues to make an impact in our community.

Joey Stinson of the Dare to Care Food Bank reconstructed the “No Hungry Homes” exhibit for the 2010 Home and Garden Show where it was seen by thousands of people. Hopefully, the visitors will be reminded of a simple way to help others in our community by donating canned goods or other non-perishable food items.

Congratulations to Tony Jackson and the entire student chapter of ASID at Sullivan College of Technology and Design. Instructor Carla Wallace serves as advisor to the ASID chapter.