

Profile in Leadership: Ray Adamyk

Ray Adamyk, a 1985 Recreation Leadership graduate, has applied his Mohawk College education and leadership experience in two very different paths, but each reflects his passion as a citizen of the world.

One path as a Humanitarian helps make a difference in the quality of lives and the other path as a Preservationist helps retain our architectural and cultural heritage.

Ray's commitment to preservation led him to found Spectra Company in 1985, an award-winning historical preservation company based in Southern California. As President of Spectra Company, Ray has helped restore, preserve and protect numerous architecturally-significant and iconic buildings such as the Hoover Dam; the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Ennis House; the Gamble House, the renowned Greene & Greene Craftsman gem; and two of Hollywood's most celebrated buildings, The Roosevelt Hotel and the famed "art deco" theatre The Pantages. Each of the last two projects represents some of Hollywood's glamorous Golden Age history as they were both sites for early Academy Awards ceremonies.

His efforts with Spectra Company have received recognition awards from statewide and local preservation groups including a 2008 Preservation Design Award from the California Preservation Foundation and a 2008 Heritage Award from Long Beach Heritage - both awards were for his company's stellar efforts in restoring Long Beach's grand 1929 French Chateau-esque masterpiece, the Villa Riviera.

These accolades and the success of heading the largest his-

torical preservation company in California, with eighty five employees, have not caused him to rest on his laurels. With his company credo — "The Greenest Building is the One That Already Exists" — he hopes to promote awareness that preservation is ultimately the shortest distance to sustainability.

Concurrently, Ray continues to dedicate his creativity to broader preservation issues by serving on the board of trustees for the California Preservation Foundation and heading up CPF's Marketing Committee.

Ray may sound like a busy man and he is. Despite this, he still devotes time to his humanitarian pursuits. Ray just recently returned from the African country of Swaziland where he joined a like-minded group from the Assemblies of God International Church. Their mission was to visit hospitals and orphanages and distribute food and clothing to remote villages. Spectra Company is also sponsoring a well-drilling project.

"By digging wells in some of those villages, you can change lives," says Ray. "It's amazing the impact it can have in helping people sustain themselves and to help them become self-sufficient just by giving them access to water."

Ray will be making other missionary trips to Africa for future projects that include building a hall for one of the communities in Swaziland.

Ray's Africa missionary trips will be documented in Spectra Company's newsletters and website. To be added to Spectra's newsletter distribution list, please contact Ray Adamyk at RADamyk@SpectraCompany.com.



Ray and his wife Ann at the California Preservation Foundation conference in Palm Springs, CA.



The award-winning Villa Riviera, built in 1929, was restored to its original grandeur by Spectra Company.



School children in the rural Swaziland village Ray Adamyk visited on a humanitarian mission.