

OUELLET TODAY

Partnership in Construction

SPRING 2007

Current Projects

Cotter Union
Pulver Pavilion
Colby College
Waterville, Maine

Residence Halls
Restoration
Maine Hall
Winthrop Hall
Bowdoin College
Brunswick, Maine

Featherman Hall
University of New England
Biddeford, Maine

Cotter Union
Book Store
Colby College
Waterville, Maine

Adams Hall
Renovation/Addition
Bowdoin College
Brunswick, Maine



Project Spotlight

Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens

Visitor & Education Center, Boothbay, Maine

In the summer of 1991, a small but diverse group of individuals with a common idea joined together to create a botanical garden in Mid-

coast Maine. The idea became reality in 1996 when Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens (CMBG) purchased 128 acres of beautiful and natural landscape in the coastal community of Boothbay. With diverse natural ecosystems, two-thirds of a mile of tidal waterfront on the Back River, a dramatic topography and more than 300 native plant species, the property was a perfect canvas on which to create the only coastal botanical gardens on the Atlantic Coast. In 2005, thanks to the gift of an additional 120 acres, CMBG became the largest botanical garden in New England.

CMBG's new 9,000-square-foot Visitor and

Education Center, designed by Quinn Evans Architects, Washington, D.C., and built by Ouellet Associates at a cost of \$1.9 million, includes

classrooms, a library, gallery, administrative offices, a café, gift shop and an information center. It's surrounded by spectacular display gardens, including woodlands, wetlands and shorefront, the natural treasures of our Maine woods, and will serve as the portal to the stunning gardens.

Located on Barbers Island Road in Boothbay, there are sights to see and trails to navigate

regardless of the season. We invite you to visit Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, see for yourself the beauty of our state's coast, and while you're there, take a look at the Ouellet team's handiwork.



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How Well Do You Know Your Interstates?

- 1) True or false: The interstate system requires that one mile in every five be straight. These straight sections could be used as airstrips in times of war or other emergency.
- 2) Which state has the most interstate mileage? California, Texas or New York?
- 3) Which state has the most interstate routes? California, Florida or New York?
- 4) Which interstate route passes through the most states? I-40 or I-95?
- 5) Which five state capitals are the only ones not directly served by the interstate system?
- 6) Which of these states—Kansas, Missouri, New York or Pennsylvania—has *not* claimed to have the first section of the interstate highway system?
- 7) What's the difference between odd- and even-numbered interstates?
- 8) Where is the highest elevation on an interstate road?
- 9) Where is the lowest elevation?
- 10) Who said the interstate system "makes it possible to go from coast to coast without seeing anything or meeting anybody"?

—from *USA Today*

ANSWERS: 1) False. According to the Federal Highway Administration, the so-called requirement is nothing more than an urban (or rural) myth. 2) Texas, with 17 routes totaling 3,233.45 miles. 3) New York, with 29 routes totaling 1,674.73 miles. 4) I-95, which traverses 15 states and the District of Columbia (Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, District of Columbia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine). 5) Juneau, Alaska; Dover, Del.; Jefferson City, Mo.; Carson City, Nev.; Pierre, S.D. 6) New York. 7) North-south routes are assigned odd numbers, while east-west routes are given even numbers. And lowest-numbered north-south routes begin in the west; lowest-numbered east-west routes are in the south. 8) Eisenhower Memorial Tunnel on I-70, Clear Creek/Summit counties, Colo. It's 11,012 feet (on the east side) and 11,158 (west side). 9) El Centro, Calif., 52 feet below sea level. 10) Late TV journalist Charles Kuralt.

The Future Of The Cube

Combining advanced materials, technology and sociological research, look for your cube to shrink in size but be more hip in the future. According to a *Time* magazine story "Redrawing the Cube," by Lisa Takeuchi Cullen, cubes are here to stay, but they will be transforming in possibly intriguing ways in the near future. Here are some cube facts and possibilities:

- 70% of office workers sit in cubes.
- In the 1970s, a typical workstation was 12 feet by 12 feet.
- In 1995, a typical workstation was 10 feet by 10 feet.
- Today's workstations average 6 feet by 8 feet, and cube planners say they can reduce the space by 21% without reducing productivity.



- 45% of workers say they do their best work in their own personal space.
 - The top complaint when it comes to privacy? Overheard conversation, with particular ire being aimed at loud cell phone talkers.
- Features to look forward to:*
- Desks that have adjustable heights.
 - Colored overhead lighting panels. Green means you're available to talk. Red means you're too busy to be bothered.
 - Semi-enclosed areas for cell

phone use—the areas will enhance signals with boosters and reduce the level of noise in the local cube farm.

- Translucent cubes that allow for a view, but also include doors to increase sound privacy.
- Enclosed seating areas, where people can get together for chats without disturbing their neighbors.
- Get ready for yurts—shell-like enclosures that muffle noise and provide some privacy for small groups.
- Individual desktop temperature controls.

Listen Up

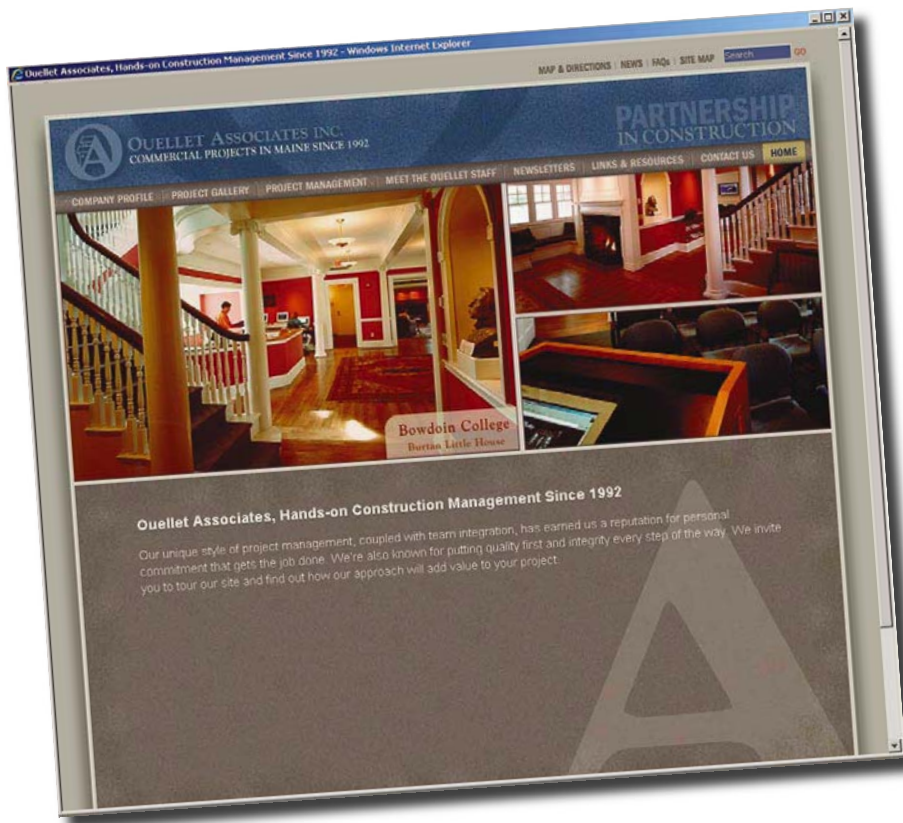
In conversations, do you ever find yourself thinking of what to say while the other person is still talking? According to Connie Dieken, president of onPoint Communication, a business communication consulting firm, this is the major reason why most people are poor listeners. "We're so busy mentally planning a rebuttal that we miss the other person's true message," she says. "Commit to staying in the moment as others speak. This will prevent racing ahead and other mental tasks."

Are You Holding A Grudge?

Have you had a negative interaction at work with someone and now you're holding a grudge? If so, you should probably work through it. Why? Because devoting so much time to negative energy is probably not going to pan out for you in the end.

Don't get caught obsessing on what has happened in the past. You can think about it, acknowledge it and even remember it so that you are not vulnerable, but to focus your energies on your grudge will probably only hurt you in the workplace.

If you catch yourself going over and over the offending scenario in your head, take a walk or immerse yourself in some activity that will clear your mind. And remember what Buddy Hackett said: "Don't carry a grudge. While you're carrying the grudge, the other guy's out dancing."



We've Built A New Home In Cyberspace

Ouellet Associates is pleased to announce that our new website is up and running. You'll find lots of photos, a company history, project profiles, key player bios and our management philosophy in a nutshell. You can also log on to read back issues of this newsletter and link to the websites of a few trusted colleagues. See you in cyberspace!

Spamalot!

For those who may have missed the e-mail, we've changed e-mail addresses. Prior to the change, we were getting upward of 100,000 spam e-mails per day, which was slowing our system down dramatically. So, if we get back to you more quickly, now you'll know why.



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