

Every obstacle in life has a design solution.

December 2020, Volume 6, Issue 72

## This Year's Gingerbread Structure

Due to the Covid Virus the recommend restrictions on congregating and travel we decided to do our annual Gingerbread Structure earlier than usual. The choice of structure was primarily settled by the Iconic Building of the Month in our November issue. It can be found on our website for reference. As a reminder the building was Fallingwater.

**Fallingwater** is a house designed by architect Frank Lloyd Wright in 1935 in rural southwestern Pennsylvania, 61 miles southeast of Pittsburgh. The house was built partly over a waterfall on Bear Run in the Mill-Run section of Stewart Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania.

After deciding on what would be the gingerbread structure of the year we need to create drawings in scale so the final product will look right.



Photo credit: Design M Group

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### Did You Know ?

We are the leading local provider of tools and resources for people planning on adding on to, renovating or building a home.

We have several consumer guilds to help you.

**One of our recent publications is...**

**"The 10 Advantages of Design Build"**



Download it here and share it with

### Archi-fact.

As a reminder, the rules for Gingerbread competitions always include this statement... "All Gingerbread Houses must be 100% edible candy/embellishments/materials except for lights 'inside/outside' the house. Non-edible support structure material other than the baseboard may not be used."

# This Year's Gingerbread Structure

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The next step we found to be very helpful is to create a model out of paper or foam core board. We pin it together so we can take it apart and use it as a pattern (the patterns only act as approximate shapes and sizes as the gingerbread expands as it bakes) for all of the pieces of gingerbread we need to make.



## Archi-Quote

“Nature is my manifestation of God. I go to nature every day for inspiration in the day’s work. I follow in building the principles which nature has used in its domain.”

Frank Lloyd Wright

Then we start rolling out the gingerbread. We cut the gingerbread to the approximate shapes and sizes and put it in the oven. As each batch cools, they are trimmed into the proper sizes and shapes.

The next step is to start building. On the inside the structure requires pieces to hold up the gingerbread above. This way the entire gingerbread structure does not have to be solid.



*Photo credit: All photos on this page are by:*

*Design M Group*



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# This Year's Gingerbread Structure



Right Photo credit: Design M Group



## Archi-Speaks

Can you find these words?

PLANS                      MODEL                      BAKE

CUT                              BUILD

U Y E B Y V Q U A A V L X E F  
 V H S A Z N G S T C T Z P Y O  
 E M B K A J N L Q X A R P N D  
 M O D E L A B T H S Y P N F Y  
 D O J E L U O U Q V U F A T V  
 R E V P C Q D X I N S Y M D F  
 X M T W W E A A T L P O C M W  
 N C Z C D R K K R D D A A V V  
 R A Z W C D A A Z I B G Q X B  
 M M A U F T W O T U W I C B L  
 S Y T Y S K X H O Q D X S J Q  
 S S Y C X M W V I T Z G F A Q  
 Z D W J F I C U B W M N J S T  
 O W K O A G H Y S U E B J C U  
 Y Y C W R E J I U M O S A X F

## Ask M

In the James Bond books and movies the character “M” heads the Secret British Intelligence Service known as MI 6, of which James Bond is Agent 007. When contemplating adding on to your home or building, renovating or building a new home or building you should have someone like “M” on your side. Each month the “Ask M” column will answer a reader’s question to place more information at your finger tips. **This month’s question is...**

**If pandemics become common, should buildings be designed differently?**

**Donald P.**

*Donald,*

**The simple answer is absolutely! Buildings should have the ability to increase airflow and fresh air, there should be vestibules even for houses and apartments and the new safe ultra-violet intense lights should be added to air ducts and vestibules just to name a few design changers which should be required.**

Email your questions to [info@designMgroup.com](mailto:info@designMgroup.com) ,and in the subject line type in “Ask M”. We look forward to hearing from you and hope we can answer the questions to everyone’s satisfaction.

## Want to speak with the Architect

Do you have questions but do not know where to start?

Do you know the legal consequences of starting a project without approvals?

Are you sure you have completed all of the research necessary so as not to waste your money and time during construction?

Are what you think are your NEEDS and OPTIONS truly the best for you and your future?

Does the contractor really have YOUR best interest in mind when suggesting solutions?

Answering these questions and more are the reason for enlisting a Needs and Options Review.

We can help you on your way to a successful project with less hassles and problems.

Visit: [www.designMgroup.com](http://www.designMgroup.com)

## About

Marcus Marino, RA, AIA, NCARB  
President



photo credit: Jenna Glatzer

Marcus Marino, RA, AIA, NCARB is a leading architect in New York City. He received a Bachelors of Architecture from the prestigious Pratt Institute and a Masters in the Science of Architecture and Urban Design from Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. He received his license to practice architecture in New York State in 1981 and is licensed in a number of other States. Marcus Marino has served on numerous Governmental Panels and serves as an expert consultant to other architectural firms and legal firms. He is the former Vice President of Public Advocacy of the New York State American Institute of Architects.

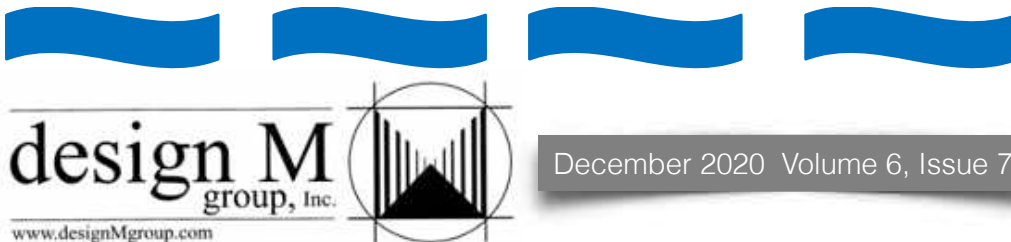
## Our core beliefs are ...

**Architects have a responsibility to our clients, community and the environment.**

**Architects should help provide information to our fellow world citizens about their homes, offices and the built environment in general.**

**Your Home should move you emotionally like your favorite song does.**

**Let Us Help You Build the Home You Knew Was Always There For You.**



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## Contact me !

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