

## Bill Bosley, Bosley Construction: Rewarding Career Honored

By Priscilla Shrader

After 33 years in the home building industry and dozens of years serving his trade through local, state, and national organizations, Home Builder Bill Bosley of Bosley Construction was recently honored at the 2006 Arkansas Home Builder of the Year Awards Banquet, receiving the coveted 2006 Arkansas Home Builder of the Year Award.

“This is a very unexpected honor by which I am humbled,” said Bosley. “It’s already rewarding to build homes for people, but to be recognized by my peers for doing my job is an extra bonus.”



Bosley was one of 27 home builders nominated for the 2006 Arkansas Home Builder of the Year Award, and with his resume of hard work and dedication to his industry, there is no question why he was selected to receive the honor. In 2006, Bosley served as the Legislative Chairman for the State of Arkansas, which included duties such as testifying to several legislative sub-committees before the session started in order to prepare congressmen for legislation that the Home Builders Association (HBA) would be introducing concerning laws such as the Right to Cure Law. He also serves on the Nationals Association of the Home Builders (NAHB) Research Center Board of Directors. This group oversees the certification of products that go into the construction of new homes. This information helps equip Bosley to help the local building community decide on quality products they should be using in the building of new homes. In addition, Bosley also spends a significant portion of his time each year talking directly to city building officials as a liaison regarding specific building codes and regulations.

To say that Bosley is involved in the home building industry in Arkansas would be a huge understatement. He has been an ambassador for the industry for decades serving on dozens of boards and committees for a number of organizations including the Arkansas Residential Contractors Licensing Board; local, state, and national HBA; Habitat for Humanity; and other non-profit organizations in Central Arkansas.

One milestone in the building industry in Arkansas that Bosley played a large role in was the battle for the licensing law in the state for residential builders. After fighting for this law for over 20 years, a board was developed to oversee residential builders in the state, and they are now required to be licensed in the state of Arkansas.

Bosley’s career began by earning a degree in Civil Engineering and working for the Highway Department. His father-in-law had been a home builder for 50 years, and Bosley went to work for him. Soon after, his father-in-law decided to retire, and Bosley formed Bosley Construction in 1984. “I wanted to build homes and neighborhoods for families – not just a roof over someone’s head,” said Bosley. Over three decades later, Bosley has built hundreds of homes in Central Arkansas. “We have always had several projects going on at any particular time,” said Bosley. “WE like to offer a variety of housing styles and pricing.”

Bosley notes the strong relationship with his subcontractors – many who work exclusively for Bosley Construction – as a key component of his business. “We consider our subs part of the construction family, and we treat them accordingly,” said Bosley. “We don’t want anybody on our jobs that are not comfortable and are not making a good living.”

In 2006, Bosley says his business philosophy was no different than other years. “Provide a beautiful home for the buyer with structural integrity and value exceeding the money spent – that’s our business philosophy,” said Bosley. “We take significant pains to see that the home built suits the family that will be living there, with consideration given for family size, function, and future growth. We enjoy improving the quality of life for our customers.”

For Bosley, being a part of the home building industry is both challenging and rewarding. “The housing industry has kept our nation going and it’s been enjoyable to be a part of that,” said Bosley. “The enjoyment of finishing a project and making the customer happy is what keeps me going.”

In addition to home building, Bosley is also involved in land development in Central Arkansas. In 2006, Bosley Construction finished the development of a retirement village in North Little Rock and also developed Stone Creek Subdivision in West Little Rock.

Along with development and building, the Bosley family’s passion is carried out by helping people in need through applying their home building skills to organizations in the Central Arkansas area. Bosley and his wife Donna are very involved in Habitat for Humanity, and Donna formed the Habitat for Humanity Counsel in Saline County. They have built several Habitat projects across the country. This is the Bosley family’s way of giving back.

Bosley’s two sons are also involved in the family business. His oldest son, Chip, oversees and runs most of the jobs as Vice-President for the company. Younger son, Brennan, is a professional fisherman, but works with the company during his off-season or when there is a need to pick up the slack during busy times. Bosley says the commitment of his family to the business allows him to do the work for the industry that he loves and has been committed to for decades. “My family’s dedication to the business allows me to devote many hours to involvement in the overall industry,” said Bosley.

His involvement and the dedication of excellence to his trade caused his peers to take notice and name Bosley the 2006 Arkansas Home Builder of the Year. “Bill Bosley is one of the most recognized and respected members in the HBA. In part, I think it’s because he’s extremely active in the local, state, and national boards of directors, but also because his craftsmanship and attention to detail are tantamount trademarks of his business,” said Executive Officer for the Home Builders Association of Greater Little Rock Joe Burak. “Needless to say, Bill has made our association and the local building industry better because he’s involved, and we’re proud of his accomplishments and being named Builder of the Year.”

Home builders like Bosley have a passion for their industry and understand the impact the residential building community has in the area. “We should all appreciate that our industry is the engine that drives the economy and never forget that such a responsibility is also a privilege,” said Bosley.

This Builder of the Year and his team celebrated this accomplishment of being named the best of the best in stride. “We started building another house!” said Bosley “I sure hope we continue celebrating in the same way.”

While he takes great pride in the honor of being named Arkansas Builder of the Year, Bosley recognizes a number of organizations and individuals who have played a large role in this accomplishment. He acknowledges his family – sons Chip, Brennan and wife Donna for their support, hard work, and dedication to the family business. He also names his grandchildren Haley, Garrett, Dillon, and Savannah as inspirations for him. “My grandkids remind me why it’s all worthwhile,” said Bosley. In addition, he acknowledges his Office Manager, Melita, for her hard work in maintaining the office and helping the customers of Bosley Construction.

Bosley also recognizes the HBAGLR, Saline County HBA, and the NAHB for allowing him to be a part of their influence and the building industry in the state of Arkansas. He would also like to thank Building Arkansas Magazine for promoting residential construction in the state of Arkansas and for recognizing so many good builders.

Bosley has encouraging words for builders in his industry and appreciation for his industry and appreciation for his craft. “Take pride in what you’re doing in providing not only homes for families, but in creating neighborhoods and surroundings in which children can grow,” said Bosley. “It’s much more than simply putting a roof over somebody’s head – it’s creating community.”