April 22, 2016

Greetings Earthlings, and Happy Earth Day to you all!

There was a lot of progress on the Lecture Hall project this week with all sorts of activity on the ground, on lifts, ladders and on the roof. That opening in the decking to the lower level, which I mentioned last week, was framed in and concrete was poured over that portion of the addition as well as the ramp and stair areas of the rotunda extension. All sorts of wall framing continues as does the electrical rough-in work that follows the wall framers.

Next week we should start to see glue-laminated (aka: Glulam) wood beams and wood decking being installed. If you are not familiar with it, the glulam product is an engineered wood product that utilizes 2x stud material (2x4, 2x6, etc...) which are bonded together in laminations with moisture-resistant structural adhesives (glue) that results in a product that pound for pound is stronger than steel and much stronger than traditional dimensional lumber. Without utilizing glulam’s - much larger dimensional lumber members would be required and those usually come from old growth timber. 2x material does not require the harvesting of old growth timber. It is a much better use of our natural resources and can be formed into complex curved members. Take a visit to the LeMay – America’s Car Museum in Tacoma if you want to see what kind of curved structures can be created out of this product.

Anyway, glulam timber is hardly a new product, but I thought it would be a good to bring up on Earth Day how glulam members, as well as the certified wood we are using, are helping us tread lightly on Mother Earth.

Have a great rest of your day and a splendid weekend.

Cheers!

Tim