

RESTORE WESLEY UNITED

The Wesley United

A Digital Arts and Training Center for the 21st Century
in New Orleans' Central City



2517 Jackson Avenue



Sanctuary Theater/Studios



Central City creators



Andy deGruchy of *Limeworks US* and *Ecologic Mortar* with Levi Lewis, instructor for the *Home Builders Institute* class of apprentice trades-people from Central City, Thursday, March 18, 2010 in the Sanctuary space.

Update of March 25, 2010

Andy deGruchy brings Natural Hydraulic Lime mortar to the Wesley and to Tulane University--*Home Builders Institute* class excels--*Zeitoun Foundation* provides funds--Many more bricks find adopters

Hello, Supporters of *Restore Wesley United*,

Another productive week of furtherance from far-flung sources!

- Andy deGruchy became acquainted with the *Restore Wesley United* project through my friendship with songwriter, performer and (small m) mason Jonathan Richman. Jonathan enthusiastically

recommended a pre-Portland Concrete form of mortar for the Wesley building, one using Natural Hydraulic Lime from France, an endorsement that led me to Michel Couvreur of *Transmineral USA* in Petaluma, CA and from Michel to the proprietor of *Limeworks US* and *Ecologic Mortar* in Philadelphia, PA, Andy deGruchy.

Andy generously offered both his 26 years of hands-on expertise and products of his company to *Restore Wesley United*. He traveled from Philadelphia and visited the site from Tuesday through Friday of last week, working with the current *Home Builders Institute* class of apprentices from Central City during the last two sessions. Like the audience at Tulane's Richardson Hall on Thursday night for Andy's power-point presentation (an event brought about by Professor Heather Knight), the class listened and questioned attentively, as Andy related the many and ancient advantages for environment and endurance of Natural Hydraulic Lime mortar. See www.limeworks.us for more. It blends well too. Almost all the patching and pointing reachable from the floor on the brick walls in the Sanctuary space are now complete due to just two days of work by the *HBI* crew.



- Dave Eggers first contacted me in January 2007,