Conference Catalyst for Change?

President's Message

Your Comments Count

The Chapter office staff was overwhelmed by the response to our compensation survey - over 250 replies in the first four days. The results of the survey will be reviewed at our conference, "Compensation Crisis: Architects and Their Fees," on October 12 and 13.

I would like to share a few of the many comments we have received:

"For the liability assumed by the architect, we should charge a minimum of $200 per hour for services rendered by senior architects. Trying to relate to a percentage of construction has become inadequate. A knowledge of exact costs involved (time, energy) multiplied by a factor of three will bring profit if work is steady, other wise a factor of four should be used."

"As a self-employed architect, I have found that somebody's always going to be cheaper, or somebody else will take the risk of doing less complete work. Quality service is immeasurable, and most clients assume that all architects are about the same."

"We should not publicly criticize our fellow architects. It is not to our advantage to make each other appear incompetent."

"[Architecture is] a poorly paid profession only because once a firm 'hits it big' the principals seem to lose their principles about the profession."

"Architects continually 'underprice' their services. How many of us will do a feasibility study for a token fee, or no fee, in hope of getting the commission - a study which may be worth thousands to the developer. Until we educate the client and demand higher fees, we will remain the poor relative of the major professions."

Thank you to those architects who sent us their opinions. Your comments will help us focus the conference on subjects that will be of the greatest interest.

This month is a busy one for the Chapter. The staff is working at a breakneck pace, and with our two IBM computers, the Chapter has entered the age of technology.

The 1985 dues statement will be mailed the end of September. I urge each of you to pay your dues promptly so that next year's president, Norman DeHaan, and the Board of Directors can effectively carry on the work of your chapter.

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Do You Agree?

A 29 year old respondent to the 1984 CCAIA Compensation Survey writes:

"Architects have to treat each other and the profession with more respect and dignity both at the public level in seeking commissions and projecting a professional image, and at the personal level of treating young architects as respected professional peers. This profession feeds on itself and on its young...if we don't believe in ourselves nobody will buy the line for a better fee structure."

Peter B. Wight, addressing the Seventh Annual Convention of the American Institute of Architects in Chicago, 1873 remarked:

"I have been asked by a gentleman who has had some experience as a patron (or 'client' as we say), if Architects really met, talked, were friendly to one another; and upon assuring him that such things did occur, he said: 'I thought the way some of them talk to every man among you was contemptuously trying to get up a powder plot for all the rest...Be assured, gentlemen, business men will not believe honest unless we treat each other honorably.'"

From a 46 year old respondent to the 1984 CCAIA Compensation Survey:

"We should be able to develop that we do not work for nothing. We should not publicly criticize our fellow architects. Other professions don't do this. It's to our advantage to make each other appear incompetent."

Peter B. Wight, 1873:

"The self-enforced isolat of Architects has been source of all the misfortune of our profession. In the sence of friendship, backbit and slandering become eas acquired accomplishments."

Till recently our profession stood alone in the prevalence of these evil practices, wherever they have existed has fallen into well-deser contempt. The innocent have shared this with the guilt, and, as a result, have either retired in disgust to other occupations or have adopted tactics of the less scrupulous persons, to procure business enough for a decent livi Unscrupulous clients have taken advantage of this state of fairs to drive sharp bargain.

A 33 year old respondent the 1984 survey:

"Attitude and self-image a big problem; if architect thought more highly of himself, they could be more self-assured in their business dealings and command and receive higher compensation."

And from Weld Coxe, writ on "Can Design Leadership Managed?" in the July issue Progressive Architecture:

"Behavioral scientists note...that architects as class tend to have lower se
"Compensation Crisis: Architects & Their Fees"

October 12 & 13, 1984

Midland Hotel

Registration Due
Chapter Office

October 8

$75 AIA Members
$100 Non-Members
Includes Friday Lunch

"Compensation Crisis: Architects & Their Fees," has paralleled some survey replies with remarks from a recently excavated speech given in 1873 by Peter B. Wight.

Members of the architectural profession involved in a seemingly inextricable condition can either remain in the quagmire, or they can create an atmosphere conducive to change. An insolvable position exists only when those involved embrace apathy and meaningless criticism. It should be recognized that negative attitudes feed upon themselves, and the ill-will expressed among a group's members diffuses the power it can ultimately possess to change the nature of the condition.

President Eyerman, with his penchant for broaching subjects many others would only tentatively uncaps, directed his May FOCUS column to the profession's exuding environment. "The need to establish a fair return on the architect's investment in their practice and the establishment of fair compensation for architectural employees must be the major focus of the AIA in the remaining years of this decade."

A conference, "Compensation Crisis: Architects and Their Fees," has been developed to provide the impetus for a significant change. We hope it will furnish the space where commonalities can surface for a mutual give-and-take, so that architects can reap that fair return.

A.K.

Chapter Programs

Golf Outing

The Membership Committee is sponsoring their first golf outing on Friday, September 7 at the Old Orchard Country Club, Rand Road and Euclid in Arlington Heights. $40 will get you a cart, on the course, dinner, and prizes. There will be a cash bar.

Tee-off times start at 11 a.m. For reservations contact Bob Chaney, 427-4000. Be a sport and entertain a client.

Microcomputer Information Exchange

The Micro-Computer User Group is having its Kickoff Program Wednesday, September 19 at 5:30 p.m. in the Chapter Board Room. The program will include informal user presentations and an "Ask the Experts" Forum, where each member may ask one question of the group's more experienced users.

New and prospective members are encouraged to attend and share in the exchange of information relating to micro-computers and their use in the architectural office. Please join us.

Refreshments will be served. Space is limited so call the AIA office at 663-4111 for reservations.

G. I. E. Plans for All Architects

The Committee on Architects in Government, Industry, and Education has been planning a number of programs that will be of interest to all architects.

The first fall program, "LUNCH ON THE QUAD: THE JOHN CRERAR LIBRARY," takes place on September 21 at the University of Chicago. Harold H. Hellman, FAIA, will present an overview of the 30 million dollar development of a new sc-
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eremony Salutes 1984 Best

The 1984 CCAIA Awards Program will take place on September 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the Art Institute's Columbus Drive Auditorium. The presentation ceremony will include a screening of all entries. It will be preceded at 5:30 p.m. by a reception in the Department of Architecture Gallery of photographs of the winning buildings, student competition winners' boards, and examples of work from the Young Architect Award recipients. At 7:30 p.m., award winners will be honored at a reception, to be held just across the street at the Art Institute in the recently renovated lobby of the Ta Fe Center.

An exciting assemblage of talent will be recognized that evening. 11 commercial and residential buildings will be cited as winners of the 1984 Distinguished Building Awards. One other will be given prominence as a design that still makes an aesthetic statement 25 years after being integrated into our city's architecture.

Five "Chicago Award" winners from the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee will attend the ceremonies representing an architecture program that embraces a formula for professional success.

Three young architects who have displayed exceptional talent and contribution to architecture will be honored. The Distinguished Service Award will recognize two individuals who have given outstanding service to the architectural community as a whole.

"The House Next Door: 150 Years of Chicago Residences" focuses on residential design over the last one and one-half centuries. 149 houses were selected by a panel of architects and historians: The 150th home has been left for each to choose his or her own favorite. Guests will have an opportunity to share the 149 houses next door through slides presented during the awards ceremony.

The cost for this special evening is $12 per person. Request for reservations should be sent to the Chapter office.

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"ARCHITECTURAL AWARDS IN PERSPECTIVE:"
A SYMPOSIUM: Held in conjunction
with "Honor & Intimacy," 8 p.m., the
Art Institute, Fullerton Auditorium

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"ARCHITECTS, PALACES, AWARDs" (30)
Jim Law and ArchiCenter

RENEWING "SOUTH LEECH"
Ed Ulrich, Center Gall
MICROCOMPUTATION EXCHANGE BOARD ROOM

WALL GLAZING SEMINAR: 2nd day

"WALTER BUR AUSTRALIA";
Landon, 12: Gallery, Fr
1984 CALENDAR

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1984 CCAIA AWARDS PROGRAM CEREMONY: Exhibit, 5:30, Dept. of Architecture Gallery; presentation of awards, 6:30, Columbus Dr. Auditorium; reception, 7:30, Santa Fe Center lobby, 224 S. Michigan


GOLF OUTING: Old Orchard C.C., $40 includes golf, cart, dinner & prizes, reservations 427-4000

INTERNATIONAL DESIGN MARKET/CHICAGO: Focus on residential architecture, workshops, lectures, details & registration information, 527-6141

WALL GLAZING EXHIBIT & execution of Eichler, ArchiCenter, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Free

"LINK ON THE QUAD: THE JOHN CRERAR LIBRARY": tour of new Univ. of Chicago science library & quadrangle, noon, 5730 S. Ellis, sponsored by Arch. in Gov't/Ind/Education

RENDERING SEMINAR: sponsored by NEI/AIA, Triton College Collins Ctr., 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., 2-day seminar $90, registration 449-0022

RENDERING SEMINAR: at ArchiCenter by The Day Studio, registration & information 415/626-9300

WALL GLAZING SEMINAR: 2nd Day

OAK PARK HISTORICAL DISTRICT HOUSE WALK: sponsored by St. Edmund Women’s Club, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., $7 inc. coffee & dessert at Parish Hall, 188 S. Oak Park Ave., 383-7495 or 386-0627

"NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT/CITIZEN PARTICIPATION & NORD'S FAIR": U of I, Chicago Gallery 400, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Free, presented by Center for Urban Affairs & Populacy Research, Northwestern Univ.

*NEO-CLASSICAL ARCHITECTURE IN CHICAGO*: Exhibit opening, ArchiCenter Gallery, please confirm opening date 922-9431

SES IN th Peter ShiCenter
Gold Medalist Exhibition Opens

The AIA Foundation exhibit, "Honor and Intimacy: Architectural Drawings by the Gold Medalists, 1907-1983," opens at The Art Institute September 6 and will remain on view through October 28. The exhibit features architectural drawings by AIA Gold Medalists from the point of inspiration to the final presentation. The drawings represent a broad range of styles and interests. Included are drawings by Pietro Belluschi, Charles F. McKim, Milton Medary, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Clarence Stein, and Howard Van Doren Shaw. Also featured are drawings by Henry Bacon, Marcel Breuer, Bertram Goodhue, Sir Edwin Lutyens, Auguste Perret, Josep Lluis Sert, Louis Skidmore, and Louis Sullivan.

43 individuals have received the Gold Medal, which recognizes individual achievement in design, planning, education, engineering, and the practice of architecture. "The AIA Gold Medal was founded in order to promote the public view of architecture and demonstrate the significant changes architects were making in American life," said the exhibition's curator Richard Guy Wilson, professor at the University of Virginia's division of architectural history.

Following the Chicago showing, which is funded through the Thomas J. and Mary E. Eyerman Foundation, the exhibit will travel to the Octagon in Washington, D.C.

Symposium Takes a Look at the Numbers

On September 10 a symposium will be held at The Art Institute in conjunction with "Honor and Intimacy." Joining Rich Guy Wilson will be two members of the Architecture Pre John Morris Dixon, editor Progressive Architecture and Jane Holtz Kay, architectural critic of the Christian Science Monitor.

"Architectural Awards Perspective: A Symposium" convenes at 6 p.m. in Fuller Auditorium to discuss the increase in the number of architecture awards over the past years. What does this increase mean from a contemporary viewpoint, and what impact will it have from a historical viewpoint?

The symposium is co-sponsored by the Architecture Societies at The Art Institute and AIA Foundation, and is possible by a grant from Skidmore, Owings & Merrill.

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Chapter Programs

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Chapter Programs
Continued from pg. 11

to prepare an architectural program that clearly articulates the needs and expectations of the user.

The October and November programs will be held at noon in the Chapter Board Room.

Microcomputers: The Basics

A series of hands-on microcomputer tutorials introducing architects to the basic functions of word processing, spreadsheets, and database management will be offered on six Thursday evenings beginning October 11. "Microcomputer Training for Architects," co-sponsored by the CCAIA Computer Committee and the Department of Architecture at IIT, will be held from 6 - 8 p.m., October 11 through November 15.

MOTORCOMM, Inc.

The October and November programs will be held at noon in the Chapter Board Room.

OCTOBER 11, CCAIA Board Room
"How the Microcomputer Fits into the Architects Office": A panel discussion covering typical computer applications used within the office, advantages in using a microcomputer, and how the computer is related to services performed. The discussion, to be conducted among Chapter members currently using a microcomputer, will be followed by questions and an outline of remaining sessions.

OCTOBER 18, IIT Downtown Center, 77 S. Wacker Dr. "Introduction to Microcomputer Systems": A discussion and demonstration of the basic components, hardware and software that comprise a microcomputer system. You will learn the basic computer terms, how a computer is organized, and how it handles information.

OCTOBER 25, IIT Downtown Center. "Word Processing" A demonstration of the basic concepts and capabilities of word processing on a microcomputer. Tutorial goals include how to create and update documents, how to print documents, what kind of applications word processing can be used for, and an overview of advanced word processing features.

NOVEMBER 1, IIT Downtown Center. "Spreadsheets": demonstration of the basic concepts and capabilities of spreadsheets covering how create spreadsheets, the kinds of applications for which the spreadsheet can be used, an overview of advanced spreadsheet features.

NOVEMBER 8, IIT Downtown Center. "Data Base Management": A demonstration of basic concepts and capabilities of database management systems. Learn how to create query database, the kinds of applications for which the database can be used, plus an overview of advanced database management features.

NOVEMBER 15, CCAIA Board Room. "Implementation": to implement the microcomputer applications demonstrated the last four sessions. Discussion will cover determining computer requirements, managing computer use, computer use problems, and future trends in microcomputers.

Robert Krawczyk will be principal instructor of series. Krawczyk is a computer application consultant, is instructor in the Department of Architecture at IIT, serves on the National AIA Computer Committee.

Early registration is recommended, as it is expected that the series will be filled quickly. Your registration must be received in the Chapter office by September 21. All six sessions are $75 to AIA and members, and IIT students, faculty, and administrators. Non-member registration is $1.

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Through a special arrangement with the publisher, the ends of Ryerson and Burnham libraries, The Art Institute Chicago, are selling the remaining 70 volumes of Josef Albers' last portfolio, "Formulation: Articulation." The two round volumes contain 66ders with 127 original silk-screen images by Albers. This limited, numbered limited edition of 1000 was printed in 2 under the artist's direction by Ives-Sillman, Inc., Connecticut. The volumes are on view by appointment in The Art Institute Library.

Mr. Sewell Sillman, former Associate Professor of Graphic Design at Yale University and assistant to Josef Albers will speak on the printing of Albers' "Formulation: Articulation" at the fall meeting of the Friends, Thursday, October 4 at 5:45 p.m. Mr. Sillman and his late partner, Norman Ives, collaborated with Albers on the production of this book, which took nearly two years.

To purchase the portfolio mail a check for $2000 (Illinois residents add $160 sales tax) made payable to the Art Institute of Chicago/Friends of Ryerson and Burnham Libraries to: Ryerson and Burnham Libraries, The Art Institute of Chicago, Michigan Ave. at Adams St., Chicago 60603. The Friends will pay for shipping and insurance. Contact Barb Korbel, 443-3671, for more information.

Profession Focus of Carson's Promotion

In the spirit of, "From big bags, better ones will grow," benefit dinner dance, "The Architectural Focus of Glessner Hall" has triggered a whole week of contemporary architectural activity, to be held Carson Pirie Scott's State Street store between September 19 and 21.

Contributions from five architectural/cultural organizations will take form as exhibitions, lectures, displays, and illustrations, bringing the entire architectural community into focus. CCAIA members have responded with enthusiasm to President-elect Norman DeHaan's invitation to participate in Carson's Salute to Chicago Architecture. The Boards of the 1984 Chicago Interiors Awards winners will be on display. Models and renderings of "Fantasy Buildings" will be exhibited (fantasy being defined here as creation without commission. Our members will be displaying their original architecture creations, as well as, at noon on Carson's "classroom kitchen," their culinary talents.

A special exhibition of paintings, sculpture, stage sets, and other artistic activities is also planned to show off the architect wearing his "fine art" hat. A noon lecture series, films, slide presentations and special tours of the store itself round out the "salute."

Anne Royston
In Brief Form

THE ILLINOIS CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS is sponsoring a seminar on the use of microcomputers in the landscape architectural office. It will be held September 21 on the UI, Urbana campus. On October 12 the ASLA is sponsoring a seminar dealing with creative ways of using various paving materials in design, which will be held at the ArchiCenter. The cost for each session is $25.

A WALL GLAZING SEMINAR will be held at the ArchiCenter, SEPTEMBER 22 & 23. The Studio in San Francisco will conduct the seminar, and invited AIA members to view a collection of wall glazes and surface finishes and see actual execution of a fin on September 21 at the ArchiCenter from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information and registration brochure: the Day Studio, 4626-9300.

New Members

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