Update from the Executive Vice President

As the saying goes, "time flies when you're having fun!" I've thoroughly enjoyed my first 15 months serving you, the members of AIA Colorado. I would like to offer an update on a few of the major activities we've been involved in recently.

Sponsored Legislation
AIA Colorado took a giant leap in the right direction this year by sponsoring a legislative bill, HB 97-1089, the "Architects Good Samaritan Law," which would provide architects who choose to volunteer their services in the event of a declared emergency with a release of personal liability. With the impending sunset review of the architect's license law in 1998, our intention by sponsoring legislation was to get our feet wet, test the waters, and increase the legislature's and the public's perception of architects and the profession of architecture.

Introduced by Rep. Vickie Agler, the bill received an overwhelming response in the House, passing from the floor with a vote of 60 to 2. Our second sponsor, Sen. Bill Schroeder, then led the debate with the Senate Business Affairs and Labor Committee. By this point, the Trial Lawyers was out in full force, and lobbied the Senate very heavily against the bill, successfully obtaining defeat with a narrow committee vote of 5 to 4.

Did a great deal of time and effort on the part of AIA Colorado go into this process? Yes. Was it disappointing that the bill did not pass this year? Yes. Did we, as we had hoped, have an impact on the legislature, increase their awareness of the profession, and learn a great deal from this effort? YES! I would like to personally thank a number of individuals who gave of their time and energy by participating in the hearings of the Capitol: Kaki Zeeb, AIA, Cliff Taylor, AIA, Dennis Humphries, AIA, John Williams, AIA, Tom McKenzie, AIA, D.A. Bertram, AIA, Mike Wisneski, AIA, and Jim Zavist, AIA.

Our first annual Mini-Grassroots "Day at the State Capitol," held Friday, February 21, was a great success. We began the morning by hosting a catered Legislative Breakfast at the Capitol for our members and approximately 40 legislators and staff. During the educational program, with more than 75 members in attendance, we were addressed by nearly a dozen legislators, including the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate, and both the Senate and House Minority Leaders. Larry Friedberg, AIA, the Director of State Buildings and Real Estate Programs, also addressed the state buildings procurement process and gave us a peek at the millions of dollars we, as we had hoped, have an impact on the legislature, increase their awareness of the profession, and learn a great deal from this effort? YES! I would like to personally thank a number of individuals who gave of their time and energy by participating in the hearings of the Capitol: Kaki Zeeb, AIA, Cliff Taylor, AIA, Dennis Humphries, AIA, John Williams, AIA, Tom McKenzie, AIA, D.A. Bertram, AIA, Mike Wisneski, AIA, and Jim Zavist, AIA.

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President's Message

Kent Freed, Doug Spuler and Sean Tennant settled in the second row of the Old Supreme Court Chambers at our State Capitol last month. The event: Mini-Grassroots. Behind them were about 80 other AIA members, interestingly, getting grayer toward the rear. I suppose, to get a good view of those who will carry the torch that they lit many years ago.

Leadership in action. Wendy Thoresen and her Mini-Grassroots committee had worked hard for many months on this event; it was in good hands.

After making the opening remarks, it began to dawn on me that this event singularly identifies the purpose of the AIA. When I meet non-member architects, they almost always ask me why they would want to join the AIA. The name of the event, "Grassroots" comes from the AIA National Leadership training held in Washington, DC each January. The purpose of Grassroots is to provide the tools we all need to become effective leaders and advocates for our profession. Here, our members were introduced to the rich tradition of Democracy known as Lobbying.

Architects have been very quiet compared to our counterparts in industry, law and science. How many of us have taken the time to visit with our representatives, to educate them about what we do, to convey our importance to society and to represent our interests as the most qualified guardians of the built environment? Eleven of our State Representatives and Senators specifically requested that we develop relationships with them so that when a bill comes up or they find themselves on a committee working on built environment issues, they can call on us to help them understand the issue.

The turnout for Mini-Grassroots and the effectiveness I believe we will begin to have brings me to the next pressing issue we face. The Annual Design Conference relates to the fundamental role of the AIA in creating a sustainable economic environment for us all to practice architecture. As most of you know, Stapleton airport is undergoing a redevelopment process. This tract of land, at 7.5 square miles, is the single largest parcel of "undeveloped" land adjacent to an urban center in the country.

The Stapleton Redevelopment Commission has unveiled a visionary comprehensive plan. Decisions are being made right now about how that plan will be implemented. Other industries from other states are looking at that opportunity right now. The chance for Colorado architects to assume a leadership role in this redevelopment is imminent. We must seize the opportunity. Right NOW. There is enough work at Stapleton for every architect in the state, practicing in every project type, to last for 30 or more years! We want to hold our conference at Stapleton—to do so will make us visible, will show that Colorado architects are leaders and will help to establish our foothold there.

Our design conference chair this year is David Barrett, AIA. Over the next few months you will come to know him as one of the few practicing architects that has been able to maintain the spirit of being an architect in his prosperous practice. Most of his work can be found in pastoral, non-urban settings. With the Stapleton site he has been seized by the opportunity to produce an event of epic proportion and lasting impact—an opportunity to simultaneously talk about urban rebirth, while creating the natural settings people yearn for. We are fortunate indeed to have David as our conference leader along with the diverse, enthusiastic committee he is putting together.

That is not to say we do not have many hurdles to cross. At Stapleton, one of the venues we are looking at is an historic, all-wood hangar enclosing over two acres! The event planning here is akin to town planning; that is the exact type of opportunity we will have to seize upon. The big idea is to create a "town" complete with town square, central assembly area), streets (aisles), lots (exhibitor spaces), and an urban edge (seminar rooms). Instead of isolated vendor exhibits, we would have their products integrated with the over-all infrastructure of the event and their exhibits integrated with the event as a whole.

The close-to-home location would make this affordable and accessible for many of our members, especially the students and interns. The removed character of the airport would allow busy practitioners to focus without the distraction of their office. And the lodging is affordable and close for those of you that would travel from afar.

Your acceptance of this idea is vital. Our exhibitors contribute the lion's share of the revenue we depend on as our conference leader along with the diverse, enthusiastic committee he is putting together.

[continued page]
A few years ago, the AIA Colorado theme was "the visible architect." I hope that this year's Mini-Grassroots and Design Conference contribute to many years of visible architects. I hope you will visit with your representatives not just today or once a year, but often. I hope you will avail yourselves to testify whenever questions of the built environment are up for review. And I hope that legislative committees come to think of architects first when deciding who to consult on these important issues. I encourage you to attend the conference and bring the people you mentor. It will only be through this type of activism, visionary leadership and forceful participation that architects will rediscover the spirit of being an architect!

Two tours are being offered to the architectural community to provide an understanding of architecture within its civic and cultural context. Organized by Anna Laker of French Walks and Arpie C. Chacovitch, a Denver designer and principal at Architecture/Denver, P.C., both tours will provide continuing education learning units.

Paris Architecture

Scheduled for July 6-12, the tour will be structured to visit a variety of architectural masterworks, old and new, with pauses to meet Parisian architects, designers and artists. After enjoying the particularly grand view of Paris, you'll have dinner in the company of a French painter at Clementine. Discussion will center around the activities, sites and thoughts of the day.

Provence Architecture

Scheduled for July 13-19, this trip will focus on the exploration of 5-6 towns in the Provence region, with emphasis on ancient and contemporary architecture. Le Corbusier's Couvent de La Tourette will mark the first stop, followed by the renovated Opera de Lyon and around Helsinki—such as Finlandia Hall, the Academic Bookstore, House of Culture, Enso-Gutzeit Building, Otsanemi Campus, and his own studio—we will also visit the Vuosinniemi Church, the Suisla Factor, Villa Matare, Paimio Sanatorium, and the Alvar Aalto Museum.

The Program organizer is Taisto H. Mäkelä, who teaches architectural history, theory, and design at the College of Architecture and Planning, University of Colorado at Denver. He has an established record of scholarship and expertise in Finnish architecture. Besides extensive lecturing and teaching on Aalto, he presently is writing a book on Aalto's villas. In addition, he has led a very successful architectural study program in Finland for students over the last three summers.

It is critical to note that Midsummer—the most important holiday in the Finnish calendar—occurs at the end of the program. It marks the longest day of the year—the sun never dips far below the horizon creating a magical atmosphere where it never gets darker than dusk (land of the midnight sun). Space for this program is limited, so reserve your place quickly. Registration forms, please contact Arpie at 303.321.1056, 303.893.1600 (AM) or Anna at 303.893.1000 (AM) or Anna at 303.275.9041. The deadline for applications is May 2, 1997.

For more information and in-depth itineraries, please contact Arpie at 303.893.1000 (AM) or Anna at 303.275.9041. The deadline for applications is May 2, 1997.

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Continuing Education Opportunities

AIA Denver Spring Breakfast Seminar Series
Series is on Tuesdays, February 25 through April 8. Registration forms are available from the AIA offices.

Producer Council's Stick Program
The 1997 Stick Program sponsored by the Producer's Council is available for architectural firms to sign up for a free luncheon while learning about technical product information and design assistance. Call Charlie Davis to get an application at 303.733.2476.

Breakfast Roundtable Discussion Series:
Defining the Profession
Building Relationships
Facilitating & Integrating Services
April 17
May 15
7:30-8:30 AM
7:30-8:30 AM
A five part series, sponsored by the AIA Denver Design Task Force Committee.
Developing knowledge and technology driven strategies through single-source delivery and multifaceted service.
Free
2 Learning Units per session. Register in advance for all of the seminars.
Call AIA office at 303.446.1226.
Other dates are June 19, July 17, August 21.

AIA Lecture Series
April 30
School of Architecture, UCD, Room 470
5:30-7:00 PM
Sponsored by AIA Denver, the fourth AIA lecture will feature George Hoovers. AIA, titled "Kalam and Architecture: A Search." Registration at the door.

Health Facility Guidelines Workshop
Various locations throughout U.S.
Earn a total of 21 learning units. 7 of which count towards your health, safety, and welfare requirements. Contact AIA PIA at 1.800.242.3833 for registration information.

A Guided Tour of the AWI Quality Standards
April 24, Denver
1:00-5:00 PM
Earn 12 learning units while playing a unique game on how to use the new 6th Edition AWI Quality Standard Manual. Specifically developed for architects and other design professionals who will be encouraged to enforce the specifications on every project, ensuring their clients the quality and performance they desire. Must preregister by calling 703.222.1100.

Architectural Woodwork Institute
April 24
12-4:00 PM
AWI Colorado Chapter presents a seminar on "Wood and Our Environment" for the design community and woodworkers. AIA members should fill out a self report form for AIA/CES. Contact Eric Peterson at 303.791.9003 for registration and more information.

Design Technology for the Built Environment
Research Methods for Building Profession, DEST 4310
April 28-May 27, 1997
Tuesdays, 6-10 PM
Offered at the University College, University of Denver. Learn methods of research and specification of materials and techniques used by the building profession. Call 303.871.3354 for registration materials.

Design Technology for the Built Environment
Building Materials-Sustainable Choices, DEST 4480
April 29-May 28
Wednesdays, 6-10 PM
Offered at the University College, University of Denver. Learn to research and evaluate exterior and interior materials based on criteria such as recycled content, renewable, etc. The course will use case studies to illustrate integration of more sustainable building materials into a wide range of project types.

Taking Control of Your Risks and Your Profits
May 29, Denver
Endorsed by AIA Denver and co-sponsored by Van Gilder Insurance Corporation, this highly interactive workshop addresses six risk management issues that affect claims against architects. Register early and get big discounts. Earn 21 learning units including 7 "ISW" hours. Call 800.227.8533 ext. 337 to register or pick up a brochure at the AIA offices in Denver.

Volunteers Needed, Call for Entries...

Achitects, interns and other design professionals are needed to volunteer to help with Habitat for Humanity and Habitat Women's Build. They are in need of developing a pool of professionals for general design and drafting. Call Habitat for Humanity at 303.334.2929 for more information.

Metro Center to present FORE! The Arts—The Center for the Visual Arts, a project of Metropolitan State College of Denver, is pleased to announce a juried competition, "FORE! The Arts!" an art/golf exhibit scheduled for display at the Metro Center July 24 through August 27, 1997. "Art Golf" was originally conceived and exhibited at the Art Institute of Chicago in 1987. The exhibit was so popular that the event has been staged by major museums throughout the U.S. ever since. Regional architects, artists and designers interested in submitting plans should contact the Metro Center for guidelines. For more information, call 303.294.5207.

The 17th Annual Builder's Choice Design and Planning Awards, sponsored by Builder and the AIA Housing Committee, is seeking submittals. Winners receive feature coverage in the October 1997 issue of Builder, plus a personalized award plaque. Call 800.738.8220 for more information, or e-mail a request to edepietrar@hanley-wood.com.

The New York Foundation for the Arts is pleased to join with Felissimo in presenting the 1997 Felissimo Design Award. Applicants may submit designs for the following products: vases, planters, gardenware, tableware, silverware, bed and bath accessories, tea services, lighting, and vases, inspired by the 1997 theme, "Theme of the Home." Call 212.366.6900 ext. 219 for more information.

Public Architects Roundtable
Please join us for the April meeting of the Public Architects Roundtable. We are developing a database of public architects and recently completed public projects. We hope to organize a tour of public work for this fall architecture week. Both AIA members and non-members are active in the roundtable. The meeting will be held on April 22 at 5:30 PM at the AIA offices, 1526 15th Street, Denver.

Building a Future

The Design Technology for the Built Environment program at University College emphasizes interdisciplinary teamwork, communication, technology, and skills needed for professional success in the fields of:

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Spring Quarter registration is currently underway.
Spring-Second Session begins April 28.
- Research Methods for Design Professionals
- Building Materials - Sustainable Choices

Summer registration begins May 12.
Summer Proposed Courses
Introduction to a Sustainable Environment
Designing for Quality
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All of our classes meet nights and you can register by phone or in person.
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FIRM PROFILE: THE LARSON GROUP

The Larson Group, formerly Gaede + Larson, was established in 1986 by Gary Larson and Carl Gaede with the goal of providing a diversity of quality services to meet specific client needs. The successful firm was originally based in California and opened a Colorado Springs office in 1991. They permanently moved all operations to Colorado Springs in 1993.

The Larson Group's focus is directed to the people who occupy the buildings designed by the firm. According to the Larson Group "we work with our clients by partnering with recognized experts to achieve project objectives in the best, most cost effective, efficient and professional way possible." They have full CADD capability and have master planned and designed civic, commercial, industrial, educational, religious and residential projects.

Among the Larson Group's recent projects is the Garden of the Gods Visitor Center. This facility is one of the most visited in the Pikes Peak Region, and provides dramatic views of the internationally known native rock formations. The two story structure, designed on a 30-60 degree grid with Frank Lloyd Wright influences, is set into the side of an adjoining mesa to the east of the park. The architects took extreme care to blend the building into its significant natural environment by using colors and textures indigenous to the Garden of the Gods. Battered wall surfaces compliment the rock formations and the metal roof provides compatibility with the native vegetation.

The interior of the Visitor Center contains a state of the art, multi-media film facility with 3-D effects and surround sound. The 80-seat, terraced theater provides a 180 degree view of the Garden of the Gods and Pikes Peak. Visitors are educated in the geological, environmental and cultural resource issues that are significant to the park. Natural history and wildlife are depicted in murals and multi-media exhibits. The Denver Museum of Natural History prepared window dioramas. The facility recently won the top award from the Partnership for Community Design.

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Downtown Colorado Springs Revitalizes

The City of Colorado Springs has selected LKA Partners to design the addition to the existing City Parking Structure and Bus Terminal, and to recommend ways to improve the transit facility pedestrian amenities and streetscape.

Located at a prominent corner of downtown Colorado Springs, the two-level addition will augment the existing structure, by adding design features that blend with the surrounding urban fabric.

Architectural design features of the parking structure visually integrate with the pedestrian level of the city bus terminal. Utilizing elements such as lighting, signage, seating, landscape materials, information kiosks and concessionsaire space, will create a positive, inviting atmosphere for the pedestrians frequenting the facility.

SOLAZ

The office of Elizabeth Wright Ingraham and Associates has designed a 3400 square foot residence located on a dramatic site in the foothills southwest of Colorado Springs. The residence, which is now under construction, will be completed in mid-April. The materials are cast-in-place architectural concrete, natural concrete block, glass and steel brie soleil. The beautifully detailed residence is appropriately titled “Solaz.”
Rodney S. Davis, AIA, Dies at 81

Rodney S. Davis, AIA, President of the Davis Partnership, died unexpectedly on Thursday, March 6 after a short illness. A forerunner in the design of health care facilities, he pioneered the specialty of hospital design in the Rocky Mountain region, beginning private practice over 30 years ago, and was recognized within the community and by his peers as the expert in medical technology as it relates to architectural design.

He graduated from East High School and attended Catholic University in Washington D.C. He served as an officer with the U. S. Navy in England during World War II. After the war, he settled in Denver and joined Fisher and Fisher Architects. In 1946, Fisher and Fisher Architects later became Fisher and Davis Architects, which eventually evolved into the Davis Partnership. The Davis Partnership is known today as one of the largest and most influential architectural firms in the Rocky Mountain region that is a center of study and internship for many young architects.

Davis was the “Father” of medical architecture in the Denver area. Almost every architect practicing medical architecture in the region today has spent time in Davis’ office. After having recently spent time as a patient in Davis’ Littleton Hospital, Sam Caudill, FAIA commented that the hospital “stands out by the way it functions. All the rooms are private and have these great views of the mountains. I could see his ingenuity and innovation in so many aspects, including the special care facilities such as physical therapy. The circulation patterns are clear and the interiors are full of color. Rod creates good looking buildings which are dedicated to the public.”

Davis’ leadership in historic preservation dates back to 1957 when he served as National Preservation Officer to the Colorado Historic Preservation Society. In the early ’70s, Davis actively fought to preserve the Federal Reserve Bank and Denver Cable Railway Buildings, as well as other lesser known buildings. His years of incisive decisions made as Vice president in charge of the historic preservation of the Central City Opera House and their twenty-seven other historic properties, including Central City’s Teller House, have led to the preservation and reconstruction of these landmarks of Colorado’s mining heritage. Says Central City Opera House Executive Director Nancy Parlier, “Rod was the right person to know when you have thirty 125 year old buildings all needing major repairs. For years, Rod had been making countless trips to Central City to look after these properties. The number of professional consultants whose arm’s he twisted for “free” help goes on and on. In addition to his knowledge of and love for our properties, Rod was a knowledgeable opera fan and an enthusiastic and successful fundraiser. Rod Davis has definitely made a permanent mark on the Central City Opera Association.”

He was President of AIA Colorado in 1963, and the Co-Chair of the National AIA Convention held in Denver in 1984. Appointed by the Mayor to the Denver Planning Board in 1968, he strongly advocated that large real estate developers contribute financially toward city services. He helped enact a strong sign code in 1971, subsequently rejected by the Courts when special interest groups found it too stringent. He was instrumental in establishing a new architectural licensing law when the previous law was declared unconstitutional and the rural-dominated legislature refused to draft replacement legislation.

He was also active in 1988 on the AIA Committee to retain the architect’s registration law in the face of the threat of Colorado’s “Sunset Law.” He joined the State Board of Examiners of Architects in 1987 and was a definitive force for six years, and he has served as Junior and on the Examination Committee for the NCARB Examinations.

He is survived by his wife, Ilenche Cowperthwaite-Davis, a Daughter, Carla Larson; two sons, Barclay and Derek; four stepsons, Steve, Kit, Jim and Tee Cowperthwaite; a stepdaughter, Jill Cowperthwaite; and six grandchildren. The Davis Partnership is in the process of establishing a scholarship in his name. Contributions may be made to First Bank of Denver, c/o the Rodney S. Davis Scholarship Fund, 370 17th Street, Denver, CO, 80202.
Brad Adams Walker has completed the design and construction of a 15,000 square foot control building for Phillips Petroleum Company at its Sweeny, Texas refinery. Part of a major reinforcement undertaking led by Honeywell IAC, the Sweeny Central Control Building will consolidate 20 control rooms over the next four to five years. Brad Adams Walker Architecture, PC’s fourth project for Phillips, the Central Control Building is also the firm’s second project at Sweeny, Phillips’ largest petrochemical plant in the world.

“Our design for the Phillips control building is articulated around a rotunda 100 feet in diameter,” says Brad Walker, AIA, one of Brad Adams Walker’s principals. “On control room design, our purpose is to maximize the console operator's productivity. From spatial layout to lighting and acoustics, we address design issues to create spaces that stimulate and contribute to the operator’s alertness.” The Sweeny Central Control Building will eventually house 100 consoles, with 20 operators working 12 hour shifts.

Brad Adams Walker’s approach to “design for productivity” has been well-received in an industry where a ten-minute problem on a plant can cost millions of dollars. With extensive research in the fields of ergonomics and 15 years designing for petrochemical environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-technical cal environments, the firm has applied its expertise to infuse high-tech...
Design Communication Committee . . . Chair: Jim Leggitt, AIA, 312.5535

On February 20th, the Design Communication committee learned the basics of watercolor painting techniques from Denver artist/architect Barbara Freulla. We visited Barbara's Denver gallery and viewed much of the work she has created in her successful 15-year career. The committee field trip to hear Barbara speak about her creativity is one of many educational events planned by our committee.

Earn Continuing Education Credits: Most of our field trips and committee meetings are designed to qualify for continuing education credits! We are also planning a series of 4-hour Reprographic options, product safety, the product choices of colored markers and pencils, and various workshops on the use of ColorWorks software as well as introduction to the use of 3-D modeling, Form Z. After quarterly brainstorming sessions and presentations on design, we will select the topics to be presented at our next committee meeting.

April 17........ Working with Colored Pencils and Markers
May 15........ New options in reproduction graphics and printing
June 19........ 100% sketching field trip
July 17........ Learn about the Internet
August 23........ Drawing Shortcuts slide show

D.png

AIA Denver recognizes the importance of architects becoming more visible in the general public's eyes, and through this increased visibility, becoming more credible. How many people can tell you quickly what an attorney or an accountant does...and more importantly, what an attorney or an accountant can do for them in their private lives? How many people can do the same thing for architects?

It's time to change the perception and understanding of who architects are and what they do...and what they can do! That's our challenge.

The Public Relations Committee will meet on a quarterly basis in the AIA Denver conference room. If you would like to become a member of the Design Communication Committee and start earning your continuing education credits, please attend our noontime brown bag workshops on the third Thursday of each month in the AIA Denver conference room. If you have any questions????, please call either Jim Leggitt, AIA, at 303.312.5515 or daphne r. scott-monroe, Assoc. AIA, at 446.2266.

Public Relations Committee . . . Chair: Doug Walter, AIA, 320.6916

A new AIA Denver committee is being formed! BUT WAIT! If your feeling is that we already have enough chapter committees, this one is structured for a different reason...the purpose of this committee is to:

- meet quarterly
- provide direction for the AIA office staff regarding public relations ideas, strategies, and contact persons.

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It's time to change the perception and understanding of who architects are and what they do...and what they can do! That's our challenge.

The Public Relations Committee will not be a committee that meets month to month. The idea - instead, is to meet on a quarterly basis at the AIA offices, and use our collective brain power to:

- identify who our public relations contacts need to be at the local newspapers and news stations
- identify who are the primary contacts within the public relations and media field, that the AIA office staff should be building relationships with - to enable us to get the word out about architecture and our events on a regular and timely basis
- identify what issues architects in the Denver and Colorado community want to become daily topics of discussion for the general public
- strategize ways to make all of the above happen.

After quarterly brainstorming sessions, the AIA office staff will take the ideas and information shared, and get to work on making those ideas happen!

We have a list of architects, marketing consultants, and media representatives who will be invited to participate on this committee. If you are interested, each committee meeting will be held over the lunch hour - at the AIA offices - and food will be provided. All you have to do is schedule the time to come and bring with you ideas for what this office should be doing.

If you would like to come, or if you would like more information, please call daphne r. scott-monroe, Assoc. AIA, at 446.2266, or Doug Walters, AIA, at 320.6916. And -- thanks in advance!

The Client Connection

Left to right: Peter Orleans, AIA, Brad Buchanan, AIA, and Ron Gupta, AIA, at the Client Connection

AIA Denver was co-sponsor and host of "The Client Connection" held March 6-7th. Seven PFAs, in conjunction with the National Risk Management Committee also sponsored and presented the event, which included five general sessions with client panels and speakers. Their goal was to meet the needs of clients, communities and the environment. "The Client Connection" presented the diversity of the architectural profession as a broadly inclusive set of practitioners who may choose to focus on design/build, construction management, real estate consulting, facility management, and a host of other specializations, as readily as on design.

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tude of contributions they have made
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Denver chapter. Our sponsorship sup-
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which has been a response to that
loss of revenue. I would like to think
a bunch of AIA members for a multi-
trade of contributions they have made
to this organization in the past four
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tude of contributions they have made
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This year's revised Sponsorship
program has been a response to that
loss of revenue. I would like to think
a bunch of AIA members for a multi-
trade of contributions they have made
to this organization in the past four
• Barry Stamp
• John Sieflcen
• Charles Keyes
• Kin DuBois, AIA
• Paul Doak
• Jim Dunlop, AIA
• Phil Swier, FAIA
• Jim Harris
• Charles Keyes
• Lynn Moore
• John Siekel
• Barry Stump

We received the following letter after
one of our breakfast seminar presenta-
tions. I have attended this session of
early morning breakfasts, and I have been impressed by something that
rarely happens in these meetings... real
interchange and audience participation with the panelists over the issues pre-
tented. I have been incredibly impressed!! I offer this letter because I
feel that it shows an interest in our programs and critical feedback about
the nature and content of our pro-
grams. I called the author of this letter
and shared with him some of my
observations, and a suggestion for future sessions... to turn to the audi-
ence of 60 or more architects and re-
address the question if the response
from the panel is not sufficient. That's
what our meetings are always about... the wealth of intelligence,
experience and diversity amassed in
any of our programs—and the oppor-
tunity to share this with others.

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am disappointed to say the least in
your first breakfast seminar “What is
Design/Build” February 25, 1997. I
was hoping for more “meat” in the presenta-
tion. It was unfortunate that it was
nearly a “non-answer.” Just a pop talk
about “let’s get into this new dimension of architecture that’s the wave of the
future.” No real discussion of pitfalls.
Basically glossing over any negatives.
I tried to bring a piece of reality with
a question that was answered vaguely at
best but not really answered at all.
These guys should be politicians. The
proverbial non-answer... answer.

I asked a very specific question regarding
“frequency and strategy.” What if an
Owner was motivated by two of the four
reasons the panel gave for
design/build... complex, unique project
and unusual schedule demands. I stated
that the Owner was unsophisticated and
unprepared. This was their main reason
for design build vs. the traditional
Architect/Owner relationship. I used
healthcare or a hospital addition as the
complex project. The Owner didn’t have
their program well developed. They did-
not know what equipment they needed;
they hadn’t done their homework and
didn’t want to wait through the tradition-
al relationship with an architect to estab-
lish this before they broke ground on a
project.

I asked what frequency they ran into this
kind of Owner and what strategy they
had to overcome this for a successful
project. Of the three panelists, two
answered. Oddly, the most experienced
guest panelist offered no response at all.
One panelist’s answer was kind of a
joke... $110 a square foot, the
greater the risk.

The other panelist said... educate the
client. Talk about a non-specific
answer. The proverbial non-answer — answer.

I asked the Owner’s answer was kind of a
joke... $110 a square foot, the
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I asked the Other panelist said... educate the
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answer. The proverbial non-answer — answer.

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CAPCO Agency of Colorado, Inc.
President's Report: GRASSROOTS '97

From February 5 through February 9, Colorado North Board members and Rebecca Spears, AIA, 1997 Secretary, joined me, along with officers of every AIA chapter and state component in the U.S., in attending the "Grassroots 1997 Annual Leadership Conference" in Washington, D.C.

This event was an opportunity to meet many of the AIA's national board and executive staff and tour our Washington headquarters. It was immediately apparent how many national-based services are utilized by AIA members, yet, I constantly hear the age old question, "what do I get for my money?" A lot!

Speaking of the big picture, as a nation, the United States of America is the overall recipient of the benefits of our organization. I'm not just thinking about continuing education or contract documents, but of the decades of legal, political and technical research, analysis, and refinement of our country's laws affecting the built environment. It is in large part due to the efforts of the American Institute of Architects that our federal, state and local laws, codes and regulations represent and translate into the high quality of life we enjoy.

Northern Exposures: An Exhibit of Selected Works from the AIA Colorado North Chapter

The AIA/CNC and the AIA Gallery Committee have again joined forces to help celebrate the work of our chapter members. Submit your work from any building category (residential, commercial, public, or unbuilt), that best meets the following criteria: 
- Created by North Chapter member
- Limit entry size to a 30" x 40" area (not including area required for displaying models) and mounted on foamcore or framed
- Each entry must be accompanied by a 100-word description of the project (including the program requirements and why this work is representative of the firm); an information sheet that includes the name of architect and project, project location, owner, contractor/builder, and special credits (photography, interior design, etc.); $20.00 entry fee, made payable to AIA Colorado North Chapter.

Calendar
The deadline for entries is 5:00 PM, Friday, April 25, 1997. Make your delivery to either Terri Taylor at AIA Colorado, 1526 15th Street, Denver, or Shawn Gaither at Garth Braun Associates, 954 Pearl Street, in Boulder (please, no early submittals to Garth Braun Associates).

Immediately following our North Chapter Board Meeting, you're invited to join us for an opening night reception on Friday, May 2, 1997 at 5:30 PM in the Gallery. The Board Meeting will be held at the AIA offices, 1526 15th Street, in Denver.

Selection
As display space is limited in the Gallery, we are planning to include 35 works as part of this exhibit. We will, however, attempt to display every project. No more than five entries per individual or firm will be accepted.

Awards
We've assembled a panel of AIA Denver Chapter members to help select the works to be displayed, and award prizes in the "Best Of Show" category.

Questions?
Call Terri Taylor at 303.446.2266 or Shawn Gaither, 303.447.1859. This is another great opportunity to give our Colorado North Chapter members some exposure!

Entry Form
One entry form per project, please.
Name of Firm or Individual
Name of Project:
Address:
Phone:
Fax:

ACCENT ON ARCHITECTURE
One highlight of Grassroots was the 8th annual gala evening "Accent on Architecture, A Celebration of Design Excellence," at the Andrew W. Mellon Auditorium, that focused on "the belief that the quality of our lives depends on the quality of our environment."
[continued next page]
The presentation possibilities included large format color reproduction - really impressive poster-quality reproduction from very humble originals - and print demonstrations on a variety of new print paper stock.

The guided tour, led by David Johnston of "What's Working," an environmentally-based consultant in construction and planning with deep involvement in the project, Kristin Shewfelt and several McStain Staff, included models from the 89 two and three bedroom townhomes, the Manor Home duplexes, and the Carriage Home series of single-family detached residences. The Homebuilders Association of Metro Denver's "Green Builder Program" was represented by Kim Calomino, who made a brief presentation of the program accompanied by a display and program information material.

Greenlee Park evolved from McStain's belief in the commitment to the design and construction of homes more efficiently thereby offering their customers the best value for their investment. A big part of this philosophy involves the creation of a healthier environment through the use of "green" products and materials - heat recovery systems replacing conventional furnaces, cellulose insulation made from recycled newspapers, low-E insulated windows, reduced VOC wall paint and carpet, joists and beams from engineered lumber with low-emission glues, and other environmentally-conscious products.

These two programs are good examples of the CNC's commitment to provide members with high-quality membership meetings and the chance to earn CE Learning Units through participation. We are working hard to develop programs and activities which will be both worthwhile and effective in providing the required number of learning units needed to maintain your membership in good standing. Look for more information on these programs in this newsletter and from fliers mailed out by the Chapter and come join us in working to make these programs successful. As always, the strength and effectiveness of our Chapter depends on the participation of its membership. We look forward to seeing you.

Grassroots, from page 11

This black tie dinner was a benefit for the AIA/AAF scholarship fund and featured the presentation of the 25-Year AIA Award for the Phillips Exeter Academy Library by Louis Kahn and the 54th presentation of the AIA Gold Medal. The Gold Medal was awarded to Richard Meier, FAIA. His individual contribution to the built environment and stature of our profession is laudable. It was an honor to witness the award and participate in celebrating his achievements.

Program

Throughout the conference we had the opportunity to interact with board members of other chapters and share ideas on strengthening membership. Areas of AIA activities presented were media programs, exhibitions, educational outreach, publications and lecture series. The extent to which the AIA promotes collaboration between the American public and design professionals is impressive. We can be proud of our organization and ourselves for the roles we play in society.

Truly, it was an honor as well for me, Rebecca and Marvin to represent our North Chapter at Grassroots '97. Thank you.
Executive Officers

President…………Shira Geller, AIA……970.925.5444
President-Elect……Suzannah Reid, AIA……970.920.9225
Treasurer…………Skip Doty, AIA……970.945.8306
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Grand Junction……Gary Vanderwood, AIA……970.242.0845
Aspen………………Steven Baetow, AIA…………970.925.5968
Telluride…………Craig Melvin, AIA……………970.728.5251
Vail…………………Andrew Abraham, AIA…………970.476.5105

We are still looking for people to fill the secretary position and the committee chair positions or any questions, call Shira Geller, AIA at 970.925.5444.

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Following is the first in a series of articles written by Wendall "Skip" Doty, AIA, exploring the far reaches of the Colorado West Chapter and beyond, bringing a bit of the "wild west" to the rest of the CWC and to the state.

We'll journey through the region's essential built roots, and discover what gives this far-flung region its special flavor. Through the use of photographs and text, this journal will explore these roots in a part historical, part mythological and oftentimes personal manner. It will be a shared discovery of forms of transportation, industrial leftovers, vanishing agricultural landscape, governmental management of public lands, and the people and communities that were involved in these ventures.

Ultimately, some light will be shined on distant memories, then they will be carefully tucked away again.

One of the pure passions I have in my life is to explore the "end of the road" areas that I informally call "the big empty." The wide open spaces are dramatic, but what I find more interesting and much more meaningful are the old ranches still being ranching, the mines, the traces of old roads, ancient ruins and in general the remains of past societies in the landscape. I organize trips around exploring a specific ranching or mining site, and when the Denver Post ran an article on Wednesday, August 14, 1996 describing the Brown's Park region of Northwest Colorado, I knew cell phone connections, this area could be seen as the forgotten corner of Colorado.

In the hard scrabble terms of settlement, Brown's Park is one of the continuously, albeit sparsely, settled regions of the state. Batiste Brown, a trapper for Hudson's Bay Co., first lived along the Green River that flows through the Park in 1827. John Wesley Powell named it Brown's Park in honor of the early trapper in 1869 during his exploration of the Green River. The Park is an oasis of grass on gravel benches rising from the river, surrounded by rocky mountain ranges which effectively cut off access to the area. This terrain has limited settlement, but was a haven for people to pass through. People who, shall we say, did not want their identity known. In fact, in 1934, only three ranching families lived in the Park. All of them knew of Butch Cassidy and Sundance, but it was best to let each do their own thing and mind one's own business. A live and let live attitude that still exists today. As John Raftopoulous, a local rancher, pointed out in the Denver Post article, "the farther that people live from one another, the better they tend to know each other."

The Gates of Lodore, a very rough steep canyon that the Green River has carved on its journey out of the south end of the Park, was named by Powell in 1869. It reminded him of the break that emptied into the Windermere in the English Lakes Region. It is easy to see how this rock dellie has been the physical focus of the Park throughout modern times.

The Lodore Meeting House and Hall was originally built in 1911 as a church and later used as a school. Located on a low bench of land facing south-westward toward the Gates of Lodore it has always been the social meeting place of the Park. It is on the National Register of Historic Places.

When I visited the site in August of 1996 during the late morning all that I could hear was the wind blowing through the nearby cemetery as the clouds began to build up to the south. But, within minutes the hall became alive and animated as pickups and cars began to appear from several directions and arrive at the Hall at the same time. A wedding was to take place between two of the nearby ranching families and people appeared as if by magic from everywhere. A country that seemed so desolate to me an hour ago was now filled with the joy of renewal.

On the way to Brown's Park my route was set for the first part of my journey to Idaho.

Colorado State Highway 318 is informally known as the loneliest highway in the state. It heads northwest from Maybell to the state line through the Brown's Park region. In fact, I encountered only six cars in the half of a day that it took me traverse the sixty plus miles, in August of 1996. A regular freeway. But, in today's world of the immediate energy of the Internet and the English Lakes Region. It is easy to see how this rock dellie has been the physical focus of the Park throughout modern times.

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Conversation Easements—
Cows, not Condos

On February 23, Doug Graybeal, AIA, hosted a seminar by the Aspen Valley Land Trust. Land Trusts help preserve Colorado’s most treasured natural heritage—the conservation easement. A landowner can use a conservation easement to ensure ongoing protection for something special on their land, such as scenic views, productive farm or ranch land, or historic structures.

Conservation easements can also offer substantial financial benefits. Using conservation easements, landowners can qualify for income tax deductions and reduce federal estate tax burdens on their heirs. Too many children and grandchildren of long-term landowners find that estate taxes on their inherited land are so high that the only way to pay the bill is to sell the land. Conservation easements have helped many families avoid the tragedy of forced sale.

Easements are legal documents that must conform to federal and state laws. Compliance with these laws ensures that the land will be protected according to the landowner’s desires for years into the future and that the landowner will enjoy tax benefits for preserving the land.

The most important fact about conservation easements is that each one is individually developed to reflect the special characteristics of the land to be protected and the individual wishes of the landowner.

In order to be eligible for federal tax benefits, landowners must donate their easement to a qualified conservation organization. A qualified organization can be a governmental agency or a not-for-profit, charitable organization with a mission consistent with the purposes of the easement. There are many qualified organizations in Colorado for you to work with.

To locate a land trust interested in accepting your conservation easement, consult the directory of qualified conservation organizations and government agencies published by Colorado Open Lands (COL).

As Chuck Vidal, Executive Director of the Aspen Valley Land Trust explains, “they (the landowners) can make their decision on their own (now). Later on, they have a partner, and that partner is Uncle Sam.”

This information was borrowed from a booklet from Colorado Open Lands, 303.694.4994 and courtesy of Dave Reed of the Aspen Daily News.

As Chuck Vidal, Executive Director of the Aspen Valley Land Trust explains, “they (the landowners) can make their decision on their own (now). Later on, they have a partner, and that partner is Uncle Sam.”

Jarvie lived for over a year in a two room dirt dugout above the river with his wife. The two stone structures for his house and store were built from local stone. What was more striking to me was his reuse of hand hewn railroad ties that had floated down the river from Green River. He constructed a barn, a blacksmith shop and corrals from them. Much of which still survives today.

We as architects have long discussions about the appropriate use and reuse of materials in building. 100 years ago incredible structures were built where these same themes can be seen. Then the overriding consideration was survival and necessity. Now, it is an indication of the wealth in our culture that we can afford to have these types of discussions.

I think this is why I search out sites such as the Jarvie Homestead. I’m looking for roots, elements of how we exist in a tempered landscape, of how it was before, and are there lessons to be learned for today’s buildings.

Because most of what we see has been stripped by the elements to its basic structure, it is important not to be literal, but to search out the essential language that a modern world can be based upon. What was learned from the Jarvie site? The first lesson for me is that what we strive to build in the west is best measured by time and not by the fashions of the moment. Some of our best efforts will be better appreciated by others after we are gone.
This year, AIA Colorado helped sponsor the Second Annual Colorado Snow Sculpting Championships in Avon, Colorado. The event, which took place January 29 through February 2 was part of the town of Avon's Winter Carnival. A state competition for Florida was held at the same time. Participants sculpted away at a block of snow measuring 6' x 6' x 8' high. Lodging, meals and tools were donated by the town of Avon. Two awards were given: one for the People's Choice Award, determined by popular vote, and the other was determined by a panel of judges.

This year's Colorado award winner for sculpture was a cubist profile surrounding a three-dimensional cross. David and his team won a trip to the National Competition and the following week in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. The winners of the National Competition will win a trip to compete in the 1998 Olympics.

Winners of the Florida state popular vote was a team headed by Richard Vorano. This sculpture was reminiscent of a Renaissance sculpture with incredible detail. The decision went to a team headed up by Mark Mason, who sculpted King Kong on the Empire State building.

The competition is sanctioned by WinterFun, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who has helped organized snow sculpting competitions throughout the world since 1984.

By Benjamin Wilking, AIA

[Statewide Firm Profile/Membership Directory]

Another "first," this much-anticipated publication should be on the way to mail boxes as you read this newsletter. A somewhat controversial decision was made to outsource the publication of this resource. The reasoning behind this decision was that 1) it would allow our limited staff to devote their time to other issues and programs, and 2) at the same time provide not only our members, but also the public, with 3,000 copies of the publication virtually free of charge. The outsource company is mailing complimentary directories to approximately 700 members, as well as more than 1,000 copies to state and local public agencies and municipalities, mayors, administrators and facilities directors around the state, Colorado libraries, universities and school districts, and 200 other AIA chapters and component offices nationwide.

My commitment to you is to continue to facilitate methods to enhance member benefits and services, and we have a number of other events planned for 1997 and beyond to increase the public's awareness of the profession and the AIA. Watch upcoming issues of the Colorado Architect, and as always, I welcome your questions and comments.

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