The AIA Colorado Young Architects' Gala

More than 200 people showed up for the first-ever AIA Colorado Young Architects' Gala on Thursday, April 17th at PS1. This was an excellent turn-out for a first-time event, and the Gala Committee was both pleased and encouraged by the show of enthusiasm. The Committee's hope going into the event was strong enough showing to help ensure that the Gala would become a yearly event. Based on the attendance and the numerous enthusiastic remarks, we think we have a "keeper" for next year and, hopefully, many years to come. The success of the event speaks well for Colorado's architectural community and the esteem we have for our youth.

The Gala successfully pulled together several different programs—which had been somewhat languishing—and created an entirely new program. Pulled under the Gala's "umbrella" were the Colorado Society of Architects' AIA Educational Fund Scholarship Awards, and the Denver Chapter's Young Architect of the Year Award. While the Educational Fund Scholarships have been granted every year for quite some time, the Gala gave these presentations additional prestige, publicity, and a much larger audience. The Denver Chapter's Young Architect of the Year has always been a great program, but there hadn't been much publicity for these winners except for the night of the awards banquet. The Gala showcased the Denver Chapter's past winners by putting them to work as co-masters of ceremonies and awards presenters.

A third group—which never gets any recognition—is recently licensed architects; the Gala recognized all 78 of the recently licensed architects in the State. We hope that the Gala will continue to incorporate this kind of annual outreach to related programs around the State. On its own, the Gala created a whole new bunch of awards dedicated to our students, interns, and young architects. These awards were tailor made for these young practitioners by developing categories that have particular relevance for these folks. The IMAGINE Awards sought to recognize significant firm contributions to young professionals through its Mentoring Firm of the Year Award.

In addition, the awards sought to recognize significant firm contributions to young professionals through its Mentoring Firm of the Year Award. The final award of the evening, the AIA Colorado Young Architect of the Year Award recognized all-around excellence among our State's young architects. Judging from the great comments we received, we believe we were pretty successful in all of the efforts.

While the Gala will inevitably evolve over the years, the Gala Committee hopes that we have the program off on the right foot!

The following is a listing of the evening's winners of the Educational Fund Scholarships:

- Kenneth R. Fuller Scholarship—$2,000 award for fourth-year study in the College of Architecture, University of Colorado at Boulder, Grant T. Yamaki
- Gary G. Ladin Scholarship—$1,500 award for fourth-year study, based upon need, Kwan Yoon
- C. Gordon Sweet Scholarship—$1,500 award to any student with proper qualifications and needs, College of Architecture, University of Colorado - Peter C. Matthews
- Producer's Council Scholarship—$1,000 award for Graduate Study in the College of Architecture and Planning, University of Colorado at Denver, Nathan Stephen Martinez-Sepulveda
- William C. Muchow Scholarship—$2,100 award for Graduate Study in Architecture at the College of Architecture and Planning, University of Colorado at Denver, Tracy Hartman
- Temple Hoyne Buell Scholarship—$2,500 award for graduate study in architecture at the College of Architecture and Planning, University of Colorado at Denver, Austin Hill Shaw
- Robert K. Fuller Scholarship I—$1,000 award for graduate study in architecture at the College of Architecture and Planning, University of Colorado at Denver, Ula Lange
- Robert K. Fuller Scholarship II—$1,000 award for graduate study in architecture at the College of Architecture and Planning, University of Colorado at Denver, Carolyn Finnison

[See GALA on page 3]
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AIA Colorado
One Park Central
1525 Arizona Street, Suite 1120
Denver, CO 80202
Phone: 303-446-2266
Fax: 303-446-6096

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NEW Architecture!

Have you ever considered one of your car's operable windows? They are all so elegantly and simply detailed—a tight little neoprene gasket, a piece of glass in a sophisticated, compound curve, a simple little crank or electrical control. How do they keep those things from leaking like a sieve? Have you looked at one of the recent video games available out there? When you want to experience a very realistic virtual world, you don't have to go much farther than the local Toys-R-U's! Have you read these articles about airplanes being designed, documented, and tested all inside computer systems? Airplanes are being air-tested and flown without every being tested beyond computer simulations! Incredible uses of new technologies abound all around us. What about architecture?

Compare that car window with our industry's best double-hung window. Compare that video game with our industry's most sophisticated three-dimensional modeling. Compare that airplane's evolution from concept to reality with our approach to creating architecture. How many of us would line up for the opportunity to test-fly our industry's CADD resources? Airplanes are being air-tested and flown without every being tested beyond computer simulations! Incredible uses of new technologies abound all around us. What about architecture?

While there is no doubt that the computer has infiltrated our practices in so many ways, there is also no doubt that we have only just begun to tap their potential. A friend of mine has often heard to remark that our profession is performing in almost the exact same way it did a hundred years ago. While we may pride ourselves in being able to think in three dimensions, we still represent our ideas in time-tested, two-dimensional means. Construction still means a bunch of guys, tools, trucks, and equipment going out to a site and cobbishing something together that will hopefully keep the rain out. In the aggregate, the construction industry is our nation's largest industry! In coping with change, we are also the slowest moving.

While we may groan—with some justification—about the changes new technologies have foisted upon us, can we but help be excited about the opportunities held out by our profession's predictable future? Dream for a moment about new means of three-dimensional representation, virtual environments, new means of product development and delivery, new means of project management and quality control... People are out there dreaming those dreams. Experiments are being made. New models are developing. Hints of our collective future are out there if we are open to them.

Our AIA Colorado Fall Design Conference in Aspen is going to expose some of those hints for all of us to consider. We intend to spotlight new trends in delivery systems, new practice methods, new business and marketing concepts, new design ideas, new approaches to education—in short, what lies ahead for just about all aspects of our profession.

I am happy to announce that we have snagged a major thinker in these realms as one of our conference leaders—Jim Cramer, president of the DesignIntelligence, and a recognized authority and dreamer of dreams about our profession's future, has agreed to be a keynote and to hang around for the entire conference to offer his insights and ideas. Getting Jim to join us for our conference is big, really big! He will set a lofty tone for our conference participants. This is going to be a conference that will be energizing and thought-provoking while you are there, and one that will tickle your imagination continually as you head back to work. We are working to create a conference that will change the way you look at things forever!

Get October 12, 13, 14, and 13 hard lined in your calendars now! October 12th will be a travel day with some evening events, such as the President's reception and the West Chapter's Awards Gala. Friday and Saturday, the 13th and 14th, will be the meat and potatoe sessions of the Conference, with the AIA Colorado Awards Gala on Friday night at the Hotel Jerome's elegant ballroom. Sunday will be there for everyone to enjoy—a leisurely brunch, a round of golf, some shop-hopping around Aspen, and time for something other than a white-knuckled race out of the mountains. Get ready to come join us. It's going to be big. Really big!
THE ARCHITECT/PRODUCT REPRESENTATIVE RELATIONSHIP

As the 2000 Producers' Council President, I've been asked to expand on the benefits of a healthy supplier/architect relationship. This is no small task, seeing that my entire professional career has revolved around the sale and marketing of construction products.

It seems as times goes by, the expanding use of outside specification writers, Master Spec, and the Internet has reduced the perceived need for the product sales and marketing professional. I was told this theme for this month is building technology and what better time to start this article than to key in on the most important reason to use a product representative.

There's no question the Internet and Master Spec makes getting basic information easier. But the relationship you build with your construction partner opens up your understanding of these products and expands the palette of materials in which to choose from.

In closing, we are not all "Dealing Doug," trying to intimate you into specifying our products. Most of us understand that servicing the long-term relationship is more important than the immediate sale.

Ed Nagel is the Building Materials Division of Rio Grande Co. He is president of Producers' Council and his phone number is 303-825-2211.

OR

"Servicing the long-term relationship is more important than the immediate sale."

GALA, from page 1

James H. Hunter Scholarship—$2,000 award for travel and study in the Americas, Virginia R. Dabroach, AIA and David B. Gelernter, AIA

Fisher Traveling Scholarship I—$2,700 award for travel and study, Tamara Kwest

Fisher Traveling Scholarship II—$2,500 award for travel and study, Dennis R. Humphries, AIA

The following is a listing of the evening's winners of the Gala's IMAGINE Awards:

Student Portfolio Award

Honorable Award Winner

Charlie Fulton, David Owen Tryba Architects

Merit Award Winners

Ken Cilia, OZ Architecture

Anna Habich, Allred & Associates

Technology Achievement Award

Honorable Award

Ken Cilia, OZ Architecture

Merit Award

Brian DeWolfe, Cottle Graybeal Yaw

Craftsmanship Award

Honorable Award

Karl Krueger, Karl Krueger Architects

Merit Award

Nanon A. Anderson, Andrews & Anderson

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AIA Colorado Young Architect of the Year

Scott A. Linderau, AIA, Studio B Architects

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State Planning statutes available online

As part of its Growing Smart™ planning statute reform project, the American Planning Association (APA) has prepared summaries of planning statutes of all 50 states. The statutory summaries are current as of May 1996 and are intended to assist agencies and groups interested in reform of state planning statutes and to provide citizens with information on the planning laws of their respective state. These summaries are designed to give a brief overview of the planning and land-use control authority in each state. If you are interested in downloading these summaries, visit the Growing Smart section of the APA's Web site at http://www.planning.org.
CONTINUING EDUCATION

AIA members have until January 1, 2000. This will retroactively affect 1998 and 1999 Continuing Education (AIA/CES) requirements for architects. The new continuing education (HSW) is 18 contact hours a year, 8 of which must be in health, safety, and welfare education (HSW), effective on January 1, 2000. This will retroactively affect 1998 and 1999 records as well.

7th International Conference Cities & Ports
November 6-9, 2000
Marseille (France)
Urban and port development authorities for coastal and river cities from throughout the entire world will be meeting in Marseille (France), from the 6th to the 9th of November, for the 7th Cities and Ports (ICAP) International Conference. More than 500 delegates representing the port cities of more than 50 countries are expected in Marseille to debate and exchange views regarding the implementation of sustainable development in port areas. Sound like this challenge is of interest to you? View the Web site at http://www.aivp.com/7thconf/marseille.asp to keep informed of the program development of this conference.

Architects will float ideas on Greek Isles cruise
October 8-16, 2000
Where do beleaguered design professionals go to stoke their creative juices for the new century? How about a sojourn back to the Mediterranean origins of Western architecture? Gliding through the Greek Isles in October, a diverse group of architects will explore the roots of their profession as they recall the origins of their own love of form. From the timeless grandeur of the Acropolis to the stuccoed simplicity of Mykonos, this Architecture 2000 cruise promises an expansive geographic, cultural, technical, and personal experience. Contact TMI Architectural Cruise at 800.975.7775 or www.travelmgmt.com/aia.html to make sure we showcase our state, our culture, our enthusiasm, and our pride as well as the Philadelphians did. I hope I am as worn out next year after our own Convention 2001! The only complaint is the amount of shoe leather I lost getting from one end to the other!

SOME REACTIONS TO THE AIA 2000 NATIONAL CONVENTION
—Stephen K. Loos, AIA, NCARB

The AIA 2000 National Convention in Philadelphia is history! Somehow, however, I don't think the Philadelphia Chapter is going to settle down for a well-deserved rest. The pace of their convention matched the pace of their city, and I don't believe they are going to spend a lot of time resting on their laurels.

Philadelphiaans are on the move! Their city is a bustling kind of place with traffic-filled streets, storesfronts galore, honking horns, pedestrian traffic, and street-life everywhere. The contrast between this convention and last year's in Dallas was remarkable! Where you had to search hard for signs of life in Dallas, in Philadelphia, it was surging all around you. Their convention exhibited this life, this pace, and their obvious pride in their city and what they have accomplished.

I hadn't been in Philadelphia for about 12 years, so it was a bit of a shock when I got out to walk around a little. Where there used to be seedy parking areas and weed-blown vacant lots, new buildings now muscle each other for attention—big, proud, brassy buildings, not the introverted kind that Philadelphia used to be known for.

Their new Pennsylvania Convention Center is a marvel of adaptive reuse and high-quality urban renewal. The old Reading Terminal Train Station has been transformed into a heroic gathering space for the entire state with a major ballroom that rivals anything I have ever seen before. The bulk of the Convention Center facilities stretch over two adjacent city blocks and have been designed with great care and attention. A city market, just like the old ones I remember from Baltimore, is tucked in under all this and creates a great counterpoint to all the glitzy space above. In short, I thought it was a triumph—a terrific melding of the old and the new into a seamless and very successful facility.

The convention program is pretty much a blur. I remember hustling from one seminar to another, from one meeting to another—a pretty hectic pace which didn't let up much for the three days of the convention. It was obvious that Philadelphia had decided it was on the side of excess. In addition to the convention, the entire city turned on with programs, concerts, and exhibits all over town on top of their already well-known tourist delights. There was always so much going on, you simply could not take advantage of most of it. Most days ended with a very difficult decision about where to go to dinner (The choices were fantastic!), and a weary trek to bed.

We did all the things we usually do at conventions. We listened to great and not-so-great speakers (Zaha Hadid should have stayed in London!), we elected some national officers, we approved some resolutions, and we rejected some others. You will hear all about it from other reactions. What you won't get if you didn't make it to the convention, however, is the excitement of having been there.

AIA Philadelphia has set the bar for conventions very high. They showed us a lot about city life, about vitality, and civic pride. They will be a tough act to follow next year. I know we can do it though. AIA Philadelphia has set the bar for conventions very high. They showed us a lot about city life, about vitality, and civic pride. They will be a tough act to follow next year. I know we can do it though. AIA Philadelphia has set the bar for conventions very high. They showed us a lot about city life, about vitality, and civic pride. They will be a tough act to follow next year. I know we can do it though. AIA Philadelphia has set the bar for conventions very high. They showed us a lot about city life, about vitality, and civic pride. They will be a tough act to follow next year. I know we can do it though. AIA Philadelphia has set the bar for conventions very high. They showed us a lot about city life, about vitality, and civic pride. They will be a tough act to follow next year. I know we can do it though. AIA Philadelphia has set the bar for conventions very high. They showed us a lot about city life, about vitality, and civic pride. They will be a tough act to follow next year. I know we can do it though. AIA Philadelphia has set the bar for conventions very high. They showed us a lot about city life, about vitality, and civic pride. They will be a tough act to follow next year. I know we can do it though.
VOC compliance and implications for selecting paints and other coatings

The Environmental Protection Agency's rule "National Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) Emission Standards for Architectural Coatings" (Rule 40 CFR Part 59) went into effect on September 13, 1999 for all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and all United States Territories.

VOCs are hydrocarbon solvents used in paints, stains and other products. Because alkyl (oil-based) paints contain high levels of VOCs, they will be affected the most. In most cases, they will be reformulated to lower solvent levels. The application characteristics, dry time, flow/leveling, and price of the products will all be changing; as solvent levels are reduced and solid levels are increased.

Other products that will be affected are alkyl stains, repellent sealers, varnish, alkyl traffic paints, and dry fog coatings. All solvent-based paints will either be reformulated or re-categorized. Some paints may be altered to be placed into the "quick-dry" category and have altered solvent levels; these will then be restricted to spray applications.

After September 13, 1999, any manufacturer producing, non-compliant products must pay a fee to the EPA. The fee will be based on the amount of VOC over the legal limit. The option of being able to pay a fee rather than achieve VOC compliance will be phased out over time. Manufacturers have several ways to comply with the new regulations. There are water-borne technologies (eliminating solvents), higher solids products (increasing transfer efficiencies), using exempt solvents and reviving old technologies, many of which are VOC compliant.

Many manufacturers will be reformulating their products to achieve VOC compliance. Some old technologies that will be tested as new or improved are silicates, silicone emulsions and methyl silicates. These products were first introduced in the 1970s, but were opposed in the industry because of poor performance, high alkalinity, and discoloration.

Increasing the solids content is another avenue some manufacturers are taking to meet VOC regulations. Theoretically, by increasing the solids in a product, therefore reducing VOC emissions. Many silane sealers of 20, 40, and 60% of their actual resin solids in hot, dry, windy conditions, leaving as little as 4-20% solids on the substrate.

There are some exempt solvents that a manufacturer can use, however, these solvents may not be desirable due to health-related issues. Water-based technologies are thought to be the best way to comply with the new law. These include acrylics, silanes, silicates, silicones and siloxanes. Most have comparable or better water repellency results as solvent-based products. Water-based products are generally environmentally friendly, non-flammable, have a low odor, and are easier to work with.

Implications for architects

It is important for architects and specifications writers to be aware of the VOC law. Paint suppliers should only carry low VOC paints, but many continue to sell leftover stock, or non-compliant "black market" materials. Compliance with the VOC law is also included as standard verbiage in specifications dealing with paints, primers, sealants and other applicable materials.

Following are recommendations for architects and specifiers:

- Check product literature for VOC listings. If VOC levels are not listed, chances are, the manufacturer is non-compliant.
- Because most VOC products are water based, they contribute to sustainable architectural practices.
- VOC laws vary from state to state. For example, California laws are more stringent than those in Colorado.
- Watch for new coating product lines that are not water or alkyl based, but combine the best properties of each.

One of the most difficult products to find, since the law went into effect, is a low VOC or water-based ferrous metal primer. If a metal is shop primed versus field primed, the VOC regulations are less stringent, due to the higher level of environmental control.

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Spectraglaze, manufacturers of glazed concrete block, have just introduced a new product called "Ultra Burnished Masonry Units." These normal-weight blocks are produced with marble and granite aggregates, then polished on one to four sides to a high gleam. The finished units come in 16 colors and are available in all standard block shapes and sizes, including radius dimensions. They can also be ordered with chamfered edges and other special effects.

Less expensive than traditional Spectraglaze, Ultra Burnished Masonry Units can be used for virtually any exterior or interior application where no maintenance and a high-quality, finished wall are priorities. Factory sealed before they’re polished, the units emit no volatile organic compounds.

For more information, contact Phil Peconi at Rio Grande Co., in Denver 303.625.2211.

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FOUNDATION ON WEB, SUMMER TOURS IN FULL SWING

First, the Foundation is now on the Web with a link through AIA Colorado. Our address is www.aiacolorado.org/dfa.html. You can find the summer tours, sponsored by DFA, memberships and participation opportunities, and current activities in process.

Through communication with other architectural foundations and sharing information and activities, DFA is identifying and selecting the most effective venues and roles to pursue. I also had an opportunity to discuss at length the successes of other foundations with their directors or presidents while I attended the National AIA Convention in Philadelphia last month.

Trustee Bret Kudlicki organized and carried out the exhibition of the Civic Center Office Building Competition models from February through April. Our congratulations and compliments go to Bret for his success.

Trustee Dennis Humphries reports that the Architectural Guide Book for greater Denver is on schedule and will be printed early in 2001. Early orders for the guide will be helpful, and it will also be available for sale during the 2001 AIA National Convention to be held in Denver, May 17-20, 2000.

Jackie Hahn has come aboard as the foundation coordinator, assisting with communications, scheduling and administrative support. This is a giant step forward for the foundation in formulating and securing its structure. You can e-mail Jackie with questions at denverfdnarch@aol.com.

As a reminder, the Foundation's summer tours, directed by Trustee ReJean Peeples, continue this month and throughout the summer.

LoDo: June 3 and 24; July 8 and 29; August 5 & 26; September 9 & 30
University of Denver campus: June 10
City Park: June 17
Civic Center: July 15
Geology of Downtown Denver: July 22
Central Business District: August 12
People and Skyscrapers: August 19
Golden Triangle: September 16
Auraria Campus: September 23

DFA is always open to suggestions, recommendations, and activities that will further the goal of the Foundation to involve and educate the public in appreciation and understanding of good architecture. Please contact us by e-mail or telephone: 303.779.9193.

WE WANT YOU!

The 2001 Convention Committee is long underway and working hard to help make next year's convention a success. But we need help!

We want people to get involved by participating on sub-committees to plan various host chapter events. The sub-committees meet one to two times each month for about an hour to work on their activities. Committee members also put in some additional time on their own. It is not a big commitment, but it is an important one.

Ten sub-committees have been formed: Tours, Host Chapter Party, Volunteers, Publicity/Promotion, Local Exhibits, Sponsorship, Host Chapter Store, Host Chapter Lounge, 5K Run, and Dining by Design.

Get involved with the 2001 Convention is a fun way to meet your peers in the industry and show your support for AIA Colorado. If you have experience and/or interest in any of the above committees or sponsorship opportunities—or have questions about other ways to get involved with the convention—please call or e-mail me.

Sonia Riggs is the newly appointed 2001 Convention Manager for AIA Colorado. You can call her, 303-446-2266 or send an e-mail to sonia@aiacolorado.org.
Colorado Springs: A look at ourselves—planning for the future

As the state legislature concludes its meeting for this year, it is apparent that planning and management bills will be approved this session. However, the citizens of Colorado Springs are taking a stronger role in defining the future of development and growth within our community.

This month, the city of Colorado Springs will complete a draft of its new Comprehensive Land Use Plan. This plan, guided by a citizens group, will "look into the future" and graphically depict what our City will be like in 2020. For the first time, the City's Comprehensive Plan will have a map, or if you will, a picture of what we can expect the city to be in 20 years. This map will be a useful tool in determining whether the principles upon which the city has developed to date are valid for the future.

The most telling truth of the map will show that like most cities in the United States, our zoning and planning standards have created an automobile-centered community—a community that is primarily shaped around our cars. In Colorado Springs, most uses are segregated from one another and we are forced to get into our cars to go to work, shop, eat, and recreate. Many of us are commuters, spending up to two hours a day going to and from work.

The time and number of trips has increased over the years with two parent-working families. If this trend continues, our city will then have to direct more and more resources into building and maintaining roads to accommodate more cars that are being used more frequently. Even with those expenditures, most traffic engineers still predict increasing congestion. Of course, the other option is to question whether the land use patterns that created our auto-centered community is appropriate for the future.

In addition, should we encourage walkable urban and suburban villages with inviting public spaces and gathering spots like plazas, town squares, outdoor marketplaces, central parks, and pavilions? This would dramatically change what we are used to, which is getting in our cars and driving up and down Academy or Powers blvds. (Colorado Springs' major commercial corridors) for every errantry we currently seek. This does not mean that these commercial corridors will go away, but it will certainly question whether different methods of land development should be considered.

Of course, we can continue along the current paths of development, which raises the second critical piece of our new Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Can we afford it? Colorado Springs is 180 square miles (which includes the vacant 25,000-acre Banning Lewis Ranch), the largest city by area in the state. Forty percent of this land is vacant. To build and maintain roads and parks, and provide public safety (police and fire), delivering services over such a large area is costly and inefficient.

Can the city continue "urban sprawl" without raising taxes, developing impact fees, or seeking additional revenues for even the most basic services? Of course, this does not even begin to address the environmental costs associated with sprawl development. The dilemma is enormous and to date, the citizens' committee and staff who are working on our Comprehensive Plan have not developed any firm recommendations to City Council.

We have all become comfortable, to some degree, with the lifestyles we have created for ourselves in our residential subdivisions. Our new Comprehensive Plan may not change the physical pattern of the city or the social interactions (or lack thereof) that come with that land use pattern. However, our new plan will raise the questions of what we can expect if we continue along the same path.

Quinn Peitz, AICP, is Planning Group Support Manager with the City of Colorado Springs. His phone number is 719.385.5338.

---Quinn Peitz, AICP
Why less is more when remodeling

Carpe diem!  
The media is starved for information by and about architects. I have recently written the following article and had extreme success publishing it in numerous places. The more we as architects can communicate our knowledge and expertise to the general public about hiring an architect, especially an AIA architect, the tide will rise for all of us. Get out there and publish yourself. It will pay off greatly.

When it is clear that your existing living spaces are not enough, your next step is to move out—of the existing footprint, that is. The temptation to build out or fill up the footprint of the current home is an all-too-common mistake. Consider the proportions and rooflines of the existing home. A successful home addition should appear seamless, as if it were always that way.

Keep in mind when you add on to a house, you are changing the balance and requirements of the home's systems. Allocate an ample portion of your remodeling budget for replacement of the furnace, hot water heater, windows, doors, and roof. This also is an excellent time to upgrade insulation and electrical service, as well as wiring your home for technology. While these improvements may not be visible, they will go a long way toward maintaining the structural integrity of your home.

Should you undertake a major remodeling project, "more" professional help upfront will cause "less" disappointment down the road. Working with an architect and a professional remodeling contractor is a wise investment. Sure, most people know the business end of a paintbrush, but have they been trained in design, engineering, and local building codes? Do they have the necessary tools, skill and experience in carpentry, plumbing, and electrical work? Your home is one of the biggest investments you will ever make so don't skimp on asking for help when you need it—you may just get "more" value than you expected.

Mark S. Queripel, is a Managing Member of Terra Verde International, LLC, a design/build firm in Boulder. He can be reached at 303.330.3232 or http://www.terraverdeusa.com

Members in the news

Z Architecture announces its involvement in the design of the Circle Point business park located along the Boulder Turnpike at 104th Street. The project is designed to complete the Westminster Promenade, and entertainment, shopping, dining, park/recreation, and lodging development that is next to the site.

NEW MEMBERS
Samuel Austin, AIA, 
Samuel Austin & Company, Architects

Bryan L. Bowen, AIA

Christopher M. Johnson, Assoc. AIA

Dawing Tropce James
Other roadside attractions—
The Gila: A Mythology of place

—Skip Doty, AIA

The West is a land of great distances populated by diverse groups of people. It is the compilation of the stories of these people that connect the dots and establish the communities that give life to the expanse.

My story began on the bench seat of an 1952 two-ton, flat-bed truck as it traversed the dirt back roads to Beaverhead in the early summer of 1957. Our faces were reflected in the dim glow of the dash board, and the yowling of Joseph the cat hiding behind the seat was all that broke the silence of an empty landscape. Little could I know at the age of three that this journey through the dark would establish some of the defining moments in my life and be a touchstone for our family.

My father had been promoted to Ranger of the Beaverhead District of the Gila National Forest in the Southwestern New Mexico. At that time, it was the most isolated ranger district that was maintained year-round in the United States. The station was located at the base of a rock bluff and a dry creek bed was channeled through it.

It was built in the early 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). To the north, there was 80 miles of dirt road, and then 20 miles of highway to Magdalena. To the south lay 60 miles of rough dirt road and another 15 miles of pavement to reach Silver City. No television. No telephone. No radio. The twisting, rutted road north from Mimbres through the washed-out Rocky Canyon, the depths of Black Canyon, the fording of deceptive Diamond Creek and past the nearly silted in Wall Lake had not changed very much through the years, but it did bring back a flood of memories:

...Of the hours spent exploring the nooks and crannies of the rock bluffs behind the house. There was an immense space to explore, but this freedom required a high level of responsibility.

...Of meeting mortal fear as I climbed down the steep, open, morial ladder of the tower of the Black Mountain fire lookout in the dark. This tower had been built on top of this almost-mythic mountain before the war. From the top stretched a view as far as the eyes could see. From the heart of the wilderness to the broken up country near Beaverhead to the brooding Black range to the east.

...Of family picnics at Willow Creek Guard Station built by the CCC in the 1930s. (Much later, I would learn that my great grandfather had been at a rendezvous at Willow Creek when it could only be reached by several days of riding a horse. This meeting established many of the early guiding principles for the Forest Service in the Southwest).

...Of the joy of playing with the little Hispanic boys whose fathers were the summer crew.

...Of watching Leonard Culham make a rifle stock, and at the age of four, realizing that this stringy old man could make, fix, drive, or build anything.

...Of traveling down to the ranch house on the East Fork of the Gila River to buy river—just you and the rancher. Marveling at the bullet holes along one of the stone walls of the old ranch house... Legend had it that there had been a mob shoot-out there in the 30's. And having only a few days a year to a city that would stick its head out from under the tarp on the drive home.

...Of spending an afternoon at Dub Evans. At the top of the steep hill in his yard was a scrawled sign that announced that you would have to pay Quinton $50 if he had to tow you up the hill. Mr. Evans had time to warn me to keep away from the pen of one of the meanest black bulls I will ever see. We had a dinner cooked over a wood-burning stove, and ate it in a room lit only by lanterns.

...Of saying the Pledge of Allegiance to a hot water heater before my mother would teach me my first-grade lessons at the age of five. Never did attend kindergarten, although I guess the two weeks once spent at a summer school held in tar paper shack at Elmo Thompson's two-bit saw mill should count for something.

...Of my first lesson in rural economics. Quinton Holts was a wild-assed rancher that lived in the next canyon west of Dub Evans. At the top of the steep hill in his place was a scrawled sign that announced that you would have to pay Quinton $50 if he had to tow you up the hill. Mr. Evans had time to warn me to keep away from the pen of one of the meanest black bulls I will ever see. We had a dinner cooked over a wood-burning stove, and ate it in a room lit only by lanterns.

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Larry Doane, FAIA—Using technology to boost architectural communication

Why did you begin the process of teaching yourself this new approach to architecture and design?

LD: When I look back on my experiences at SOM, I realize that computers were primarily used for technical purposes—the production of construction documents. At that time, around 1982, there was a little design being done on the computer. I believed that computers would be an integral part of the architectural profession and felt that as a designer in a leadership role, I needed to take the time to learn how to use the technology. I could not expect my colleagues to use the technology if I couldn't use it. Plus, I wanted to explore and possibly make some advances in how the technology was used.

Members in the news

Cornellius (Kim) Duplins, AIA, was elected Director of Region 6 of the National Conference of Architectural Registration Boards, for a one-year term on the 12-member Board of Directors. NCARB provides support to those obtaining reciprocity in other jurisdictions.

Scheuring + Darden Architects of Denver, has expanded its staff with the addition of Erin Jones. Erin has six years' experience in various project types, including seniors, housing, multi- and single-family residential, golf course clubhouses, and athletic clubs for clients that include Springhouse Assisted Living, Colorado Private Reserve, Westridge Apartments, Johnson Lake Seniors, Community and Round Hill Country Club.

Ohlson Lavoie Architecture is pleased to announce that Ryan Harris and Sarah Ohlson Lavoie Architecture is pleased to announce that Ryan Harris and Sarah is the newest member of the architectural staff and Sarah is the newest member of the marketing department.

NEW MEMBERS

Rick Bender, Assoc. AIA
Intergroup Architects

William S. Bryan, PA
Panorama, LLC

Gwen Christian Dine, Assoc. AIA
Gerow & Associates

Michael Jeffrey Davison, AIA
Wyatt & Associates*

Daniel P. Dulaney, AIA
Dulaney Architecture

Ann Jon Emerson, Assoc. AIA
Davis Partnership Architects

Stephen A. George, Assoc. AIA
buckdesign, inc.

Kenley Graves, PA
MP/Design (Modern Planning)

Gilbert Allan Stack, Assoc. AIA
H + L Architects

Christopher J. Heil, Assoc. AIA
Brad Adams Walker Architecture

Scott Robert Higa, AIA
MCG Architecture

Yvette M. Knapp, Assoc. AIA
Art Institute of Colorado

Christopher AF Lebas, AIA

Colorado Architect

June 2000
What programs do you primarily use—and why?

LD: My interest right now is in software that is more related to the communication/design arts. This includes, for example, Photoshop, Illustrator, Painter, and various 3-D modeling software. You can see the breadth of how computers are used as communication tools in other industries: advertising, animation, movies, special effects. I apply the tools to communicate architectural ideas in similar ways. These tools are continually becoming more sophisticated and user friendly.

began to use even more tools as I progressed from construction drawings to 3-D modeling to animation, and ultimately, to the production of a "virtual portfolio." This virtual portfolio is essentially a CD and as such is an integral part of my work that includes imagery, text, and audio. The CD production starts with AutoCAD drawings and other CAD-based programs that are enhanced with Photoshop and OmniformZ (or other 3-D software).

To create the animation and produce the CD, I use Director and Electrichome, along with ancillary software like Shockbeizer (which analyzes the file and helps to clean and decrease its size). It is important to note that no one piece of software does everything. Each program has a center of gravity—I go through those centers of gravity to establish a trail to the optimal end product.

Where do you think the future of architectural communication and design is going?

LD: I would like to see the computer used more to communicate with all members of the design and construction team, as well as with the client. Imagining the process after meeting with a client, by making 3-D computer models off of a cocktail napkin sketch. The computer enables architects to get to reality very quickly. A dialogue with the design team and the client can begin almost immediately.

As the model develops and matures through the architectural process, a database model that contains building data is developed in tandem with the image models. If all team members are using the same digital model, contractors could cut their own sections, and the drawings and project database could continue to be used by facility managers. If the project was linked to the Internet, we could download details and products from web sites, and team access to the project would be easier.

Of course, the use of project Intranets and the Internet is happening to some degree, but it is far from the standard of practice. I think that architects and designers are beginning to embrace the computer as a tool to provide clarity to ideas. At RNL, we use technology to give us the freedom to be more creative, as the speed of idea generation is increased.

In addition, differences of opinion are reduced if communication is clear. Many of the tools we use let us give our clients a very detailed picture that enables them to critique and refine design ideas. The way we convey information is critical—using current technology to its maximum capacity makes us all more thoughtful.
I am glad you asked for responses about the term "intern," I have been giving it a lot of thought; the current controversy is not new.

When I was in architecture school, during the late '60s and early '70s in the Bachelor of Architecture five-year program, at CU Boulder, what to call architectural graduates before their licensure was a hot topic. I cared a lot about it because I worked in an architect's office during school. Then, we were called apprentices or architectural apprentices, or just draftsmen. It had been that way for a long time, based upon my discussions with architects senior to me. The discussion then was that the term apprentice or architectural apprentice implied learning a craft, more like a cobbler or a tailor, not a learned profession. It had become annoying to architecture graduates to be called apprentices.

The term architect-in-training was discussed—and at length. As I recall, engineers took most of their exam right after graduation and if they passed, used the term engineer-in-training (EIT). Again, it implied being trained for something too similar to an apprentice. Also, there was no least for architectural graduates to be called interns. They are not licensed. It was a term the public already understood and associated with a learned profession that required advanced education and formal experience after graduation. It seemed to have stature. Whenever I used the term "intern" back then, most people seemed to understand the idea that being an architect was a significant achievement, based on an internship with experienced, licensed architects, not just getting the degree.

Intern-architect term prohibited

The term intern-architect was always problematic, because nearly every state prohibits the use of the term architect when associated with providing architectural services. The very reason we have architectural and engineering licensing laws is to protect the public. Many states do not allow the term intern-architect. Colorado removed the prohibition of the use of derivatives of the term architect from its licensing law, but I do not know if the State Board of Examiners of Architects has made any ruling on the term intern-architect under the new law.

This issue seems driven by the emotional need to combine recognition, status, and the feeling of achievement. Many graduates with little or minimal experience are frustrated about what they get paid. However, I do not believe new terminology will change the market place. I believe all levels of the profession are terribly under-valued and under-paid in our society and economy. I have not found any architects promoting that status other than for lack of personally asserting their own value and taking risks. Think of how young architects often get their firms going, by offering low, competitive fees. It is their choice and protected by anti-trust law.

"Architect-envy" culture abounds

I also believe we live in culture with "architect-envy." Everybody is some kind of "architect," from computer people to the Secretary of State. In Nebraska, for instance, using the term architect, by persons other than licensed architects, is prohibited. It is their choice and protected by anti-trust law.

I have also been concerned that I have been asked to mentor people other than licensed architects. I have been asked to mentor interns, just the same as I was asked to mentor people other than licensed architects back then. I believe all levels of the profession are feeling optimistic about where the profession is going, not just where they are today.

But what about this "architect-envy" thing? We ought to be so proud, there is a term that encompasses something that is special to our society, someone broad thinking, a designer with intent and purpose, a visionary, someone laying out a "blueprint" to the future of peace talks, or new technologies, or our built environment. How can we capitalize on this phenomenon?

Do interns have architect-envy? I hope so, otherwise why work so hard for so long? Let me suggest the problem is not so much one of terminology, but one of daily recognition and teaching from within the profession: mentoring, architect-teachers, and trusted advisors. I have had the good fortune of working for some architects who inspired me to learn and grow quickly in their offices. They were wonderful teachers and they developed my self-esteem as an intern and young architect (like Rodney Davis and Al Zeigel). I have done my best to mentor and teach the interns in my office in that way. That is how you complete the process of becoming an architect.

I don't have an alternative that meets everyone's needs. I suggest our energy and resources are better directed toward changing the process, so (ideally) every "intern" feels optimistic about where he or she is going, not just where they are today.
DESIGNING FOR TECHNOLOGY

Designing buildings to meet expanding expectations for communications means designing infrastructures that effectively support robust communications networks. These expectations include multimedia on demand, spaces where individuals and groups effectively interact using technology, and adaptable infrastructures with spaces for network components.

When planning for integration of technology, the only constant we can anticipate is that technology will change. How can we help minimize negative effects of ever-changing technology by "future proofing" the physical infrastructure of the facility?

How can we accommodate technology advances, such as "swatched" networks that provide dedicated cables and adequate bandwidth to each computer? These and other changes in network design necessitate a number of basic building design considerations.

The hub in a building's network typically is located in the main data closet, the Building Distribution Frame (BDF). The BDF contains the network backbone connection, hub, servers, switches, patch panels, equipment racks, electrical power, cooling, ventilation, and cable management, and distribution system.

The network design may require components to be placed around the building. Components not located in the BDF may be located in secondary-level data closets, called Intermediate Distribution Frames (IDFs).

The space layout and connectivity between the BDF and the IDFs should accommodate the network—not the other way around.

Network backbones typically use fiber-optic cable because fiber's bandwidth exceeds that of copper cable. Also, fiber optic cable is not subject to magnetic fields around power cables and electric motors. However, fiber cable requires more care in routing to ensure that the maximum bend radius is not exceeded.

Copper cable still is the media of choice for most networks from the switch, through a patch panel to the end user's computer. The fastest standards-based copper cable on the market today is Category 5e. To ensure its higher speeds, the data jacks, wall/floor receptacles, and cable all have to be rated Category 5e and must be correctly installed.

Vertical cable runs must be specifically designed to off-load cable weight and accommodate cable bend specifications. It is usually desirable to have at least one data closet on each floor of multifloor buildings. "Stacked" data closets let short vertical cable runs be made between the data closets. Stacking the closets also eases the use of cable ladders to support the weight of cables. In situations where there will be concentrations of computer users some distance apart, IDFs with fiber optic cable connecting them may either be stacked or placed on the same floor.

Up-sizing cable ladders and sleeves will help "future proof" vertical runs.

Horizontal cable runs should be designed to meet both fiber and copper cable bend specifications and easily handle additional cable as the network expands. HVAC components often are the greatest impediments to cable runs from the BDF and IDF to the end users' computers. While cable trays may offer the best solution, it may be necessary to use alternative supports to avoid obstacles. The object is to handle the weight and avoid excessively sagging cables.

C. Daniel Miller is President and CEO of CV LAN, Inc., a vendor-independent technology consulting firm based in Denver. The firm specializes in integrating advanced computer and multimedia technologies into architectural designs. His phone number is 303.221.5622.

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Of the Christmas my grandparents spent at Beaverhead. Most memorable of all was driving north to the edge of the San Augustin Plains to make sure they could get out okay because of the snow-packed roads. As they drove off, an amazing sunrise lit up the frosty plains.

Of holding the flashlight and scurrying after my father on a summer evening in 1960 as he went to show the new ranger another secret of the station.

Two years later, the station house burned down. The debris was piled 25 feet high in places.

Of my father stopping the car at the ford of Diamond Creek in a pitch-black night and deciding there was too much water to try and cross. The water did not go down until the middle of the next day.

Of watching the flash flood that swept through the station and carried a little girl away to her death. The debris swept through the station and carried a tree trunk that my father planted next to the office is now much larger. The line of gnarly cottonwood trees stand in a straight, unbroken row—just as they were planted by the CCC. And finally, the stone walls built to channel the creek have not yet been buried by sediment.

"Now that you have seen it, can we not go down until the middle of the night and deciding there was too much water to try and cross. The water did not go down until the middle of the next day.

Of the ferocity of the flash flood that swept through the station and carried a little girl away to her death. The debris was piled 25 feet high in places.

Of my father stopping the car at the ford of Diamond Creek in a pitch-black night and deciding there was too much water to try and cross. The water did not go down until the middle of the next day.

Of holding the flashlight and scurrying after my father on a summer evening in 1960 as he went to show the new ranger another secret of the station.

Two years later, the station house burned down. Later the station was rebuilt at a site to the south and it became a work center used only in the summer months. In 1974, a road still led to the site of the original station. The warehouse and a few support buildings were still being used.

Now, where has it all gone? The road has become part of a horse pasture for the Slash Ranch. Trees have grown up where the roads and buildings once stood. The bluffs have even shrunk in stature. Slowly the remnants began to let themselves be seen. The pump house, which I never went to, still stood in the willows. The spruce tree that my father planted next to the office is now much larger. The line of gnarly cottonwood trees stand in a straight, unbroken row—just as they were planted by the CCC. And finally, the stone walls built to channel the creek have not yet been buried by sediment.

"Now that you have seen it, can we take that shorter route out to T or C?" "No, we can't." "And why not?" "Because the only true way to leave Beaverhead is to drive north to Magdalena." The Gila is the story of a vast landscape. But, in a greater sense, it has always been the story of ordinary people who lead extraordinary lives. The built remains of Beaverhead have all but disappeared. Yet it still speaks to me in a crystal-clear voice.
CINEMARK ADA CASE REVERSED

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is designed to facilitate accessibility of public spaces for physically challenged individuals. Architects are strong supporters of increased access to public accommodations. Unfortunately, the law is sometimes confused and frustrated as architects and clients both face uncertainty and difficulty with respect to the accessibility of movie theaters.

The ADA is designed to facilitate access to public accommodations for members of the public, including individuals with disabilities. Architects support the ADA because it allows individuals to be "assured of access to public accommodations, facilities, and services, so that they are neither unnecessarily excluded nor disadvantaged by the way they are designed and build." Unfortunately, architects' support of the ADA has been met with significant challenges and uncertainty.

Specifically, the court held that a comparable line of sight means that theaters must provide wheelchair patrons with an unobstructed view of the screen and also allows individuals to be "assured of an unobstructed view of the screen and the same viewing angles available to the majority of non-disabled patrons." This lack of guidance often leaves architects confused and frustrated as they deal with a world of certainties and conflicting standards.

Because the 5th Circuit concluded that the district court misinterpreted the ADA, the issue of state certification did not need to be addressed. Although unlikely, the Plaintiff in this case could try to appeal the case to the U.S. Supreme Court.

How this affects architects

This case is important because a federal court of appeals recognized that owners and architects are entitled to rely on the plain meaning of the ADA regulations and the official interpretations available at the time design decisions are made.

In addition, the court emphasized that "Congress granted to the Department of Justice, in conjunction with the Access Board, the authority to promulgate regulations under the ADA, in order to provide owners and operators of public places of accommodation with clear guidelines for accommodating disabled patrons." This is consistent with ADA guidelines for creating clear guidance for accommodating disabled patrons.

The ADA made a strong case for increasing the clarity and certainty of the ADA. No doubt the U.S. Department of Justice, as well as Congress, will closely consider the implications of this case as the 10th anniversary of the ADA approaches in July.

Pilkington's new solar control low-E glass

Pilkington LOF Building Products has introduced its new Solar ETM glass. The world's first color-neutral pyrolytic solar control Low-E glass combines favorable solar control properties with the thermal control properties of Low-E glass.

Glazed with the pyrolytic surface on the R2 face of clear glass and with an inboard line of clear float, Solar E provides a durable, readily available alternative to sputter coats. And because it is color-neutral, there is no change in I.G. unit appearance when the pyrolytic surface is on the R3 face of clear glass and combined with tinted or reflective glass.

For more information on this case, review the ruling at www.caf.uscourts.gov/opinions/pub/99/9 9-50204-CV0.HTM and the special update attached.

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Colorado ARCHITECT
### June Events

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For more information on any of these events, call AIA Colorado at 303.624.3988, unless otherwise noted.

### Gallery Exhibits

May 10 – June 15
AIA North "Northern Exposures"
June 3 – July 15
UCD/Martha Ambach "Interactive Architecture"

### July Highlights

28 AIA Denver Golf Tournament

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**ACI Announces 2000 Concrete Awards**

On April 7, 2000 the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the American Concrete Institute International held its 20th Annual Concrete Awards Banquet. The program provides recognition for creative, innovative, aesthetic or imaginative uses of concrete in Colorado and Wyoming. Many AIA members and friends were recipients of these awards.

- Mortenson and Rocky Mountain Precast received the Outstanding Concrete Project of the Year for The Pepsi Center.
- The Weitz Co. Inc and Denver Architectural Precast Inc. received the Office Buildings Category Award of Excellence for Sheridan Plaza at Inverness.
- Gensler, The Weitz Co. Inc. and Rocky Mountain Precast received the Award of Special Recognition for 370 Interlocken Boulevard.
- Michael Murphy Architecture, Structural Consultants Inc., and Palace Construction Co., Inc. received the Residential Award of Excellence for Trierie—"City Romance".
- Wilson & Co. received the Unique Use of Concrete Category Award of Excellence for the 1-25 Noise Barrier in Colorado Springs.
- Walker Parking Consultants received the Parking Structures Category Award of Excellence.
- Centric Jones Constructors received the Award of Excellence for USC Walking Stick Interchange, SH 47 in Pueblo.
- Michael Barber Architecture, S.A. Mino Inc., The Weitz Co. Inc., and Rocky Mountain Precast received the Campus Development Category Award of Excellence.
- Slate-Powell & Associates Inc., IVA Inc., and Alliance Construction Solutions received the Insulating Concrete Forms Category Award of Excellence for East Grand Middle School.
- Clifford Taylor Architects received an Award of Excellence for The Roger A. Lowe Residence.
- Davis Partnership PC, Architects, Martin/Martin Inc., and Calcon Constructors Inc. received the Mixed-Use Occupancies Category Award of Excellence for the Daniel R. Ritchie Center for Sports & Wellness at the University of Denver.