AIA NC goes to Victory Junction

Heather Vance

Race cars. Outdoor Adventure Activities. Horse Stables. Architects. You would not normally find all of these things and people grouped together in one place, but that was exactly the case on January 20th when the 2006 AIA North Carolina Board met for their first meeting at Victory Junction in Randleman, North Carolina. This setting, a camp for children with chronic medical conditions or serious illnesses, played host to our group of design professionals and offered unique surroundings that created a memorable – and productive – start to the 2006 year of leadership.

Upon arrival, members were treated to a tour of the Victory Junction campus. This site, dedicated in memory of Adam Petty (grandson of racing legend Richard Petty), is a part of the “Hole in the Wall Gang” camps founded by Paul Newman, and is sponsored by NASCAR. Its mission is to provide a place for ill children (who are often ostracized or unable to participate in activities with other children) to relax in a setting catered to them. The camp, operated year-round, provides ten week-long, disease-specific camp sessions (e.g. asthma, cancer, sickle cell, etc.) for about 120 children. The remainder of the year includes family retreat weekends, specialized programs for smaller disease groups, sibling weekends and camper reunions.

Campers are treated to activities they may have never experienced otherwise: rope climbing, horseback riding, swimming (especially difficult for children with temperature-sensitive illnesses, like sickle-cell anemia), not to mention arts and crafts, fishing and music. The camp is staffed each

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NASCAR might seem an odd bedfellow to AIA NC…but it probably won’t surprise a lot of you knowing that the reference is coming from me…

We held our first 2006 board meeting at the Victory Junction Gang Camp in Randleman, North Carolina on January 20th. It is a NASCAR sponsored facility and is associated with the Paul Newman “Hole in the Wall Gang” Camps that dot the country. I must say (and I’ve had many other board members say the same) it was one of the most moving experiences I have ever had - associated with AIA or not.

For those of you that don’t know the history, please go to www.victoryjunction.org to check out the mission of the camp. Briefly: the purpose is to offer a wonderful experience to children with terminal or life threatening diseases in an atmosphere of similar association. The kids get to spend a cost-free week at camp with 125 kids just like them. There they are free from the stares of society and have all the medical support necessary to relax and have fun. In the meantime, the parents are able to receive counseling for dealing with the difficulties of the day-to-day issues associated with their child’s particular illness and they get a much needed break (for many, the first they have ever had) from the responsibility of minute-to-minute care for their child.

What has this got to do with AIA NC? I have never seen better examples of Connect, Communicate, and Clarify than at Victory Junction. These are three areas of focus I hope we address for AIA NC in 2006. What a great example the camp provides of each. Let me take a minute of your time to explain how.

Camp leaders are connected to the campers. It is clear that the leaders are there for one purpose: to serve the camper as well as they can. The camper is given the opportunity to connect with any activity they desire, and spend a week enjoying something they may never have been able to do before (horseback riding, swimming, etc).

Communication is clear, consistent and crucial to both the camper and leader. For example, each building can provide total care and emergency response to any need. The communication to the camper is this: “You are the normal one here. Any daily care you need or attention to a condition that is required can occur where you are. You don’t have to stop what you are doing to go to a treatment site somewhere else.” The weeks’ result is a feeling of normality, albeit brief, but clear.

As the mission continues, camp leaders provide support to the family for marital and financial counseling, to clarify that family is important, which includes the couple at its core. By no means do I mean to reduce the importance of what is being accomplished in Randleman at Victory Junction; but everywhere I turned during the visit, I felt I was seeing an example of how AIA NC can better serve its members in the same supportive fashion. Did any of the above resonate that way with you?

I took a cue from one of my predecessors, Mr. Steve Schuster, AIA, and looked back at several years of the Presidents’ Message to understand a bit better where we’ve been, where we are, and where we’re going. As Steve said, “the consistency of the themes and directions is amazing.” The direction of this year has been the same for many years past, and most likely will be the direction for years to come. You see, there isn’t a need for a different agenda or direction as our individual leadership changes; yet there are opportunities to focus clearly on what we already know.

We are first, I think, a community of professionals…and for that community to work we must Connect. Community requires a commitment to connection (discussed in the 2002 President’s Message, Bobby Patterson, AIA.) There are so many wonderful examples of the connections within the community of our Chapter. A few examples: The Section Revenue Sharing (discussed in the 2003 President’s Message, Kerry Kane, AIA), which has provided the opportunity to connect members to the section as leadership transitions year to year. Through the use of these funds, administrative assistance has been established in five of the seven sections, (either directly, or through the ability to increase staffing levels) allowing for a certain level of consistency year to year.

Institutional knowledge year to year is great. Through the Chapter board meetings we find ideas that connect the members and morph across the state, from Barkitecture in Charlotte, to Parkitecture in Winston-Salem to Beachitecture in Wilmington…all three raising wonderful public awareness about the profession and the built environment.

We continue to connect to our communities as more and more of our members enter public service. In the past, members like Harvey Gantt, FAIA, John Tabor, AIA, Darrel Williams, AIA and Joe Sam Queen, AIA have all served in public arenas.

Connections will continue to be a major focus as we dedicate
more board meeting time to issues concerning the sections, setting one board meeting agenda completely on section planning: sharing and connecting plans, calendars, and resources across the state. Additionally, our National AIA President, Kate Schwennsen, FAIA, has challenged us to connect with the emerging professionals that are currently migrating from the field of Architecture. For AIA to continue and prosper, we need to connect with those potential leaders who will further the profession for many years to come. As Kate says, “the time for change is now!” Where else do you think we should connect?

As a profession and organization we must also Communicate. The more we communicate the more we know; and the more we know the more powerful we become. We are thus better able to serve each other and enhance our value as architects. One of the wonderful communication tools developed under the leadership of Alan McGuinn, AIA is the “Section Leaders Tool Kit”, available on the web-site (www.aincnc.org.)

This provides consistent communication between sections, posting bylaws, calendars, budgeting forms, planning templates, management ideas, etc. Through this tool, we are able to avoid previous mistakes, use previous successes to focus on more efficient use of volunteer time, repeat successful statewide programs, capitalize on shared events …you get the picture. The Chapter continues to provide web site development assistance and support. Communication through the Chapter website links sections to one another as well as potential customers, who are able to search for a particular relationship for services.

We are also taking a bold step in beginning the process of searching for a new home for the Chapter Office. In the past several months the Tower Task Force (recently renamed the AIA North Carolina Center of Architecture Task Force), chaired by Walt Teague, AIA (and now co-chaired along with Darrel Williams, FAIA) has looked at the public image and mission of AIA-NC, and found that today we are more engaged in the community and with our allied organizations than ever before, and need a home that reflects that image - one that communicates “AIA North Carolina”. How else do you see us communicating?

Have you ever caught yourself wondering out loud “…if I had only known?” Hindsight truly is 20/20. To insure we arrive at the proper destination and follow our mission, we must Clarify where we are and what we’ve accomplished already, which will leave us with what is left to do. As outlined above, our previous accomplishments are very clear and deserve celebration but there are opportunities left.

My good friend Wayne Camas, AIA likes to remind me that our chapter is the largest statewide chapter in the country and that it is time we started acting like the National leader that we are. I think we are doing just that - with the declared candidacy of Paul D. Boney, FAIA for First Vice President/President Elect, we set ourselves out clearly on the National stage. With other members like Marvin Malecha, FAIA, our South Atlantic Region Director; Jeffery Huberman, FAIA serving as a NCARB Region 3 Director; and Dave Crawford, our Executive Director, serving as the 2006 CACE President (and thus also having a seat on the National AIA Board), we are in the position to influence the State as well as the Nation concerning the profession. How do we move forward?

Beyond the efforts of many volunteers, one of the vehicles is money…and we must clarify where it will come from. Non-dues revenue generation has to be clearly defined and established. Through the hard work of Matt Messick, AIA, we have established a relationship with AEPlans that promises to be a step in this direction. Mike Cox, AIA has continued to develop relationships between the Continuing Education Academy and providers like Red Vector and Lorman that will also provide additional income. Where else do you see clarity or the need thereof?

Beyond the focus to Connect, Communicate and Clarify, 2006 will require our collective attention and efforts in other directions. I would be remiss if I didn’t take this chance to update you on several issues.

According to the January 30, 2006 edition of The Insider, the possibility of a service tax is raising its head…again. The North Carolina Tax Code is being reviewed with consideration toward expanding the code to include service industries, i.e. architects (and others too, we assume). If you’ve ever wondered “what did AIA do for me today,” you can say Dave Crawford made you aware of this study. If you ever wondered if you should donate to the PAC, here is reason enough. Contact Rob Johnson, AIA with your donation today. Watch your e-mail too, for continued updates. As this study moves forward, I am sure Dave will be calling on us for action.

On a much happier note, there are great ongoing plans for a milestone Chapter event. Roy Johnson, AIA, is chairing the AIA150 Celebration. He is helping to create a statewide focus, through section sponsored activities, will follow along with the AIA National Blueprint for America to celebrate the 150th birthday of AIA in 2007.

Additionally, I have one reminder. Please mark your calendars now: The South Atlantic Region Conference is scheduled for October 4 -6, 2006, in Chattanooga, Tennessee, an exciting riverside city. Please plan on joining us along with AIA South Carolina, AIA Georgia and AIA Tennessee (a first) for the conference entitled Design Fitness: Livable, Healthy Communities. Under the leadership of Marvin Malecha, FAIA, the list of speakers is outstanding. You won’t want to miss it.

I appreciate your indulgence and the opportunity to expound on my personal view of our organization. I hope it generates interest and provokes action. My fortunate opportunity is to serve each and every one of you this year. I hope you will call on me. I will be traveling frequently (as Alan McGuinn, AIA, Immediate Past President has warned) so please call me on my mobile phone at 336-963-0003 whenever you need me. And if you are ever off the Big Road, and driving down US Highway 64 through Ramseur, stop by 7929. We have a great front porch at the farm…sit and enjoy some lemonade with me (at least that’s what granddaddy called it…) and let’s talk about the passion of life.  ■
week with the medical personnel and support teams specific to the illness of the children visiting. All facilities are equipped with the tools needed to provide and enhance the experience for each child.

The camp counselors receive training to understand the intricacies of each disease and offer the children the best experience they can possibly have. It is indeed a place designed for its purpose and utilized to its fullest capacity.

The Petty family continues to break ground on new projects on their 500-plus acre site, with the goal of treating every child that wishes to attend – which is an accomplishment in itself, since camp is free for accepted applicants. NASCAR stars often pay for transportation or provide chartered plane/helicopter service for children and their families.

As the AIA NC Board toured the buildings, some paid attention to the details – spark plug lighting in the theater, polycarbonate recreations of engines in the lobby, and suspended race cars in the cafeteria were noted. This architectural tour was interesting if only because of the race car shaped buildings and application of lively color.

Some paid attention to the functionality – cabins, craft rooms, and an urgent care center all fit seamlessly onto the same campus.

Everyone, though, noted the overwhelming mission of Victory Junction and the equal desire to achieve it when Patti Petty addressed them all during the meeting session. She and her husband, NASCAR racer Kyle Petty, are constantly working toward making the facility better and more hospitable to the children who visit.

Their inspiration was – and still is – their son, Adam Petty, killed in a racing accident several years ago. His dream, Patti said, was to build a camp like the Newman’s Hole in the Wall Gang camps, but “bigger, faster, and better.” She surely seems to be working toward that end, describing the new projects coming in the next year: an activity space designed to look like a train engine; a new spiritual center for the children and their families to receive counseling; a “tree house” that will stand several stories tall; and landscaping that will be administered by Richard Petty himself. After she finished speaking, all the members could ask was: “How do we help?”

Her answer was simple. “Take this information back with you,” she said, “and tell your communities about what’s going on here in Randleman. You can volunteer, or you can send money. We never turn people away from volunteering! And you can just let people know, if they have a sick child, that we are here for their family.”

Find out more about Victory Junction and the Hole in the Wall Gang camps by visiting www.victoryjunction.org. All photos provided by Jim Rains, AIA.
A Catch-22 from a Case of Unintended Consequences

David Crawford, Executive Vice President, AIA North Carolina

A quick search of an on-line dictionary defines a Catch-22 as:

a. A situation in which a desired outcome or solution is impossible to attain because of a set of inherently illogical rules or conditions.
b. A situation or predicament characterized by absurdity or senselessness.
c. A contradictory or self-defeating course of action.
d. A tricky or disadvantageous condition.

At the beginning of 2006, I received a phone call from an attorney with a small local jurisdiction in NC. He proceeded to tell me about a seemingly innocuous ruling by the State Bar that may have a bearing on how our architect members practice and how local municipal attorneys can treat them. That got my attention!

In a nutshell, the ruling by the Bar’s Authorized Practice Committee was a response to a suspended attorney’s inquiry as to whether he had the right to represent a client before a city planning board. The Committee, in its response to this attorney, set about to distinguish the levels of activity performed by the city’s planning board and similar municipal boards. They summarized that in some instances these boards act as legislative bodies and at other times they operate as quasi-judicial panels.

Herein lies the crux of the bar’s ruling: they found that if a municipal body is acting in a quasi-judicial proceeding, only licensed attorneys in North Carolina may represent a client. A proceeding becomes quasi-judicial when sworn testimony is taken and witnesses are subject to cross examination.

As we investigate, we are finding that a trend in many communities is for local boards to use sworn testimony for their meetings. This is especially prevalent in zoning variance and special use permit cases. This is mostly the result of growing contention surrounding land use decisions, prompting municipal attorneys to require the practice in the event there is future legal action taken against the city and its elected/appointed officials.

So what types of local boards would fall into this quasi-judicial category? Besides planning boards, there are boards of adjustment, zoning boards, city councils, county supervisors…. many of the very bodies our members are in front of on a regular basis for client representation.

Problematically, this ruling did not address the specifics of the one attorney who posed the initial question. It was crafted in such a way as to broaden its reach to any individual who finds himself/herself in a consultant/client role; thus prompting the concern of the AIA and all other NC design organizations whose members represent clients before these bodies.

The AIA has formed a coalition with the engineers, landscape architects, land surveyors and general contractors to present our case to the Bar’s Authorized Practice Committee; we’ve hired attorneys to fight the attorneys (now there’s a surreal experience), and we are researching any legal precedents that will help our cause. In mid April, we will ask the Bar Committee to withdraw their initial opinion, giving us more time to come up with a solution to this apparent Catch-22.

In discussions with the staff for the Bar, we were told that the outcome that we now see from the ruling, which has the potential to affect thousands of design professionals, was never considered. The decision was simply intended to prevent a suspended attorney from practicing law. All sides now agree that the ruling may have severe unintended consequences.

Many in the legal community see the ruling as uncovering a long existing deficiency that needs to be addressed while those in the design community representing clients view the action by the bar as a turf issue with spurious legal backing. Clearly, the statutes in North Carolina give broad authority in quasi-judicial hearings to licensed attorneys. The North Carolina General Statutes §84-2.1 defines the practice of law to include, “...performing any legal service for any other person, firm or corporation… in any court, including administrative tribunals and other judicial or quasi judicial bodies….”

What we don’t know is whether or not the bodies designers deal with were ever intended to be quasi-judicial in nature. This is where the real problem may exist. As society changes and local jurisdictions react to new pressures from constituent groups and changing legal landscapes, boards that were once intended for legislative review may have been given judicial authority that was never intended. Either way, the bottom line is still the same: we have what we have, and now we need to fix it.

Here’s the Catch-22. We know that the client would rather have a qualified design professional handling their land use and design business before these bodies, but a strict interpretation of the North Carolina law may prohibit you from acting as their representative and instead require an attorney to take over that role.

Perhaps one of the most disconcerting things I’ve heard throughout my investigations on this matter has to do with the perceived roles attorneys versus designers play in their representation of clients. As I have made the case for designers being the more appropriately qualified professional to represent a client before many of these quasi-judicial bodies (because of their expertise in the legal areas of land use, building codes and design regulation) the response from the attorneys is that “...it doesn’t matter, that’s the way we always operate. We learn as we go.” So much for qualifications based selection!

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2006 Fellows
Call For Nominees

AIA North Carolina is once again seeking good candidates for fellowship nomination this year. Fellowship is the highest membership honor an architect member can receive. A distinguished jury of fellows bestows it on their peers who have displayed the highest standards of excellence in the profession. Fellowship recognizes an AIA architect member’s significant contribution to architecture and society on a national level. Approximately 2,500 AIA members have earned the distinction of using the initials FAIA after their names. Annually, on average, an additional 80 members are added to the College of Fellows roster.

Eligibility
To qualify for nomination for fellowship, you must be an AIA member in good standing for at least 10 cumulative years. You must be current with dues payments and meet the AIA’s Continuing Education System requirements. This also applies to candidates, sponsors, and member references.

Categories of Nomination
Nominations should be based on a member’s notable and outstanding contributions to the profession in fulfilling the mission of the Institute. There are five categories of nomination that correspond to the five Objects of the Institute as stated in the Bylaws. Candidates must be nominated in one of these following categories:

1. To promote the aesthetic, scientific, and practical efficiency of the profession
   Granted to architects who have produced distinguished bodies of work through design, urban design, or preservation.

2. To advance the science and art of planning and building by advancing the standards of architectural education, training, and practice
   Granted to architects who have made notable contributions through their work in education, research, literature, or the practice of architecture.

3. To coordinate the building industry and the profession of architecture
   Granted to architects who have actively, efficiently, and cooperatively led the Institute or a related professional organization over a sustained period of time and have gained widespread recognition for the results of their work.

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Call For Nominees (continued)

4. To ensure the advancement of the living standards of people through their improved environment
   Granted to architects who have made notable contributions in public service or work in government or industry organizations through leadership in the development of civic improvements and needed governmental projects, including such elements as conservation, beautification, land-use regulation, transportation, or the removal of blighted areas, or who have clearly raised the standards of professional performance in these areas by advancing the administration of professional affairs in their fields.

5. To make the profession of ever-increasing service to society
   Granted to architects who have made notable contributions to the public good through alternative careers or volunteer work with organizations not directly connected to the built environment. Achievements may also be of a kind that transcend the other categories for advancement to serve society or humanity in a unique and important manner.

Achievements in these areas should include those that are national in scope and have made substantial and positive contributions to the AIA as well as to architecture and society. Portfolios and reference letters should concentrate specifically on results, achievements, and outcomes, as opposed to titles, offices, and longevity.

Paths to Fellowship
For North Carolina members, there are four routes to obtain a nomination for fellowship consideration.

1. Recommendation by the Chapter Fellows Committee
2. Obtain letters of recommendation from two Chapter Fellows and either your AIA North Carolina Section President, or the AIA NC President
3. Any 10 individual AIA members in good standing may recommend a member.
4. Any 5 Fellows nationwide whose membership is in good standing may also nominate a member.

2006 Schedule
The Chapter’s Fellows Committee has set the following schedule for its activities this year. Candidates need to make sure they are available for the May 5 meeting and one of the review sessions.

Friday, April 14: Fellows Committee to send letters to all prospective and returning nominees.

Monday, May 1: Fellow nomination letters from nominees choosing option 2 above must be sent by this date to AIA North Carolina c/o Fellows Committee Chair, Jay Peterson, FAIA.

Thursday, May 4: Annual Fellows Committee meeting with Kathleen Daileda, Hon. AIA, Director for AIA Honors and Awards Program. Committee members, nominees and sponsors are invited to hear the “Demystifying the Fellows Process” seminar.

Wednesday, September 13: Fellows submission review session – Charlotte

Wednesday, September 20: Fellows submission review session – Raleigh

Friday, October 20: Fellow submissions deadline, binders are due at AIA National by close of business on this day.

Nomination for fellowship is in itself an honor. It means that those who know you best (whether you have been nominated by your chapter or by a group of your peers) feel you are qualified. Once nominated, you must work closely with your sponsor to present a portfolio that will highlight your achievements and demonstrate how they contribute to the profession’s body of knowledge.

For additional questions about submitting for AIA Fellowship you can contact AIA North Carolina Executive Director, David Crawford at (919) 833-6656, dcrawford@aianc.org or Chapter Fellows Committee Chair, Jay Peterson, FAIA at (910) 686-3133. Nomination packages will be available from the AIA Honors and Awards Department after May 1, 2006. They can be reached at (202) 626-7563.
AIA North Carolina  
Center Of Architecture  
Studied  

Walt Teague, AIA

The newly appointed AIA NC Center of Architecture Task Force has begun its work to determine the feasibility of creating an AIA North Carolina Center of Architecture. The work of this task force was defined by the outcome of the 2005 Facilities Task Force that concluded that the current AIA Tower site no longer adequately supports the mission of AIA NC. During that study it was also established that it would cost less to sell the Tower and develop a new facility that meets all AIA NC mission and program requirements, than to renovate and expand to the extent possible at the Tower site to accommodate a very limited number of current programmatic needs.

The AIA North Carolina Center of Architecture is envisioned to be multi-functional. It, in itself, will be a tool for promoting the value of architects and an appreciation of architecture, quality design, and sound construction. It will be a place to share the rich history and heritage of architecture and design in North Carolina, while also informing the public of the process for achieving successful design as offered by the architectural profession. In addition, it could be an identifiable center for architectural archives and the dissemination of materials, information, and teaching tools related to the field of architecture and design. This Center may become a destination for tourists to North Carolina, as well as for school children on their educational tours of the Capital of the State.

This Center will offer a place for exhibition of current North Carolina architectural achievements, as well as relevant traveling exhibits. It can provide a place to host events of interest to the architectural community as well as those serving legislative efforts. The AIA NC Center of Architecture may even be a resource for the public in obtaining design assistance for their communities.

The AIA NC Center of Architecture will be administered by AIA North Carolina which will have its offices at this location. Furthermore, a unique synergy may be formed with other like-minded professional organizations who will share the cost of common facilities such as conference rooms, seminar and meeting spaces, and exhibition spaces.

These are all possibilities that this Task Force will consider while determining if such a Center may also be the inspiration and model for satellite locations serving the communities of our Sections across the state of North Carolina.

The result of this Task Force’s work will be specific recommendations made to the AIA North Carolina Board of Directors, defining program elements to be included, establish the total project costs, and formulate a financial development plan for potential implementation.

These recommendations are to be made by the end of the summer of 2006.

Members will be given a number of opportunities to provide indirect and direct input into the process. Every AIA Section has designated representation on the Task Force to keep each Section’s membership informed of the progress of this study and to convey Section members’ concerns. Member charrettes, work sessions, and surveys are also planned.

Below is a list of the Task Force members. Feel free to contact any of the members to share your ideas for this significant project. You may also go to the AIA NC website: www.aianc.org to obtain information about the work of this Task Force and that of the prior Facilities Task Force of 2005.

Georgia Bizios, FAIA  
Anne Collier, AIA,  
Wayne Camas, AIA,  
Mike Cox, AIA  
David Crawford  
Tim Crosby, AIA  
John Drinkard, AIA  
Robbie Ferris, AIA  
Diane Filipowicz, Assoc. AIA  
Rob Johnson, AIA  
Roger Leeson, AIA  
Jane Mathews, AIA  
Bobby Patterson, AIA  
Irvine Pearce, AIA  
Jim Rains, AIA,  
Mark Sealy, AIA  
Steve Schuster, AIA  
Hugh Sulpher, AIA  
Walt Teague, AIA,  
Darrel Williams, FAIA,  
Sean Vance, AIA  

Triangle Section  
Eastern Section: Secretary, AIA NC  
Charlotte Section: Treasurer, AIA NC  
Asheville Section: Section Rep.  
AIANC Executive Vice President  
Triangle Section: Section Rep.  
Winston-Salem Section Rep.  
Eastern Section Rep.  
Eastern Section  
Charlotte Section: Section Rep.  
Wilmington Section: Section Rep.  
Asheville Section  
Winston-Salem Section  
Triangle Section  
Piedmont Section: President, AIA NC  
Charlotte Section  
Triangle Section  
Piedmont Section Rep.  
Co-Chair, Piedmont Section: Pres.-Elect AIANC  
Co Chair, Charlotte Section  
Triangle Section
A Catch-22 from a Case of Unintended Consequences? (continued)

Ultimately, a client isn’t going to be thrilled to have to pay an attorney to sit with him at a hearing only to introduce the architect as the expert witness. “Mr. Chairman, I’m attorney John Smith here, representing my client, Ms. Jane Jones. I’d now like to introduce Ms. Jones’ architect who will be acting as an “expert witness” and will be able to tell you everything you need to know. I’ll be out in the hall if you need me.” Attorney Smith turns to Ms. Jones and hands her a bill for $400 and walks out the door.

This dialogue illustrates the absurdity of the predicament (see Catch-22 definition (b) above).

Presently, this ruling probably puts local municipal attorneys in a more precarious position than architects. They are tasked with enforcing the laws of the state and regulations from the Bar. What is the City Attorney in Raleigh supposed to do if an architect shows up at the Planning Commission representing a developer? And at the same time, what if the city sends its engineer to represent the Water Department at a quasi-judicial hearing?

We debated whether or not to send this article to the whole membership at this juncture in the negotiations because the one thing we don’t want to do is cause widespread panic about your practice and dealings with clients. The Bar has no intention of becoming a police agency on this issue just yet and isn’t quite sure how to respond to our inquiries.

What we want you to know is that this very important issue is being addressed by your professional association on your behalf and should you be approached by attorneys for local municipalities about the issue, you will have some knowledge and understanding of the situation. We also want to hear from you should you have any dealings locally as a result of the Bar ruling. Please call me at the Tower in Raleigh (919-833-6656) or e-mail me (dcrawford@aianc.org) with any experiences you may have.
Edward S. Prince, AIA, CCCA, Esq. is now the Director of Trades Inspections for Mecklenburg County Code Enforcement. He is responsible for more than 120 staff members, directing all the field operations in addition to Residential Plan Review, and the N.C. Rehab Team throughout the City of Charlotte, in Mecklenburg County and six surrounding towns. Mr. Prince is heading up the Special Inspections task force which is responsible for creating meck-si.com, the new paperless special inspections management system. Mr. Prince is the principal patent holder for meck-si.com; along with four other team members who worked together to create this advanced system that will soon be available for use by inspection departments across the county.

Jeffrey A. Brooks, AIA, formerly of Columbus, Ohio has joined Dunn & Dalton Architects of Kinston, NC as a new Project Architect. Mr. Brooks brings 19 years of experience in various building projects to this growing eastern North Carolina firm. For the last 6 years, Mr. Brooks has been working in the Educational K-12 market on public and private school projects ranging in cost from $250,000 to over $50 million. Related experience includes: Interpretive centers, military work, custom residential and religion based architecture.

HDR, a national architecture, engineering and consulting firm, recently hired John Pate, AIA as a principal in its Charlotte, N.C. office. Pate, a member of the American Institute of Architects, has 27 years of military and private practice experience as a healthcare architect. His impressive planning and management skills are evident in his project experience which includes the University of California, Davis Medical Center Surgery and Emergency Service Pavilion, Sacramento, California; Langley Air Force Base Hospital, Hampton, Virginia; Zayed Military Medical Center, Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.; and many other major medical center projects. Pate received a bachelor’s of architecture and a bachelor’s of science in environmental design degrees from Auburn University in Alabama. Prior to joining HDR, Pate served on active duty for eight years with the U.S. Army as a Medical Service Corps officer. He continues to serve in the U.S. Army Reserve as a Lieutenant Colonel.

Dennis J, Hall, FAIA, FCSI, managing principal of Hall Architects in Charlotte, NC has been named by the editors of Engineering News Record as one of the top 25 newsmakers of 2005 in the design/construction industry, for innovations and achievements featured in the magazine in 2005. Hall was cited for his leadership in the development of MasterFormat 2004, the industry standard for organizing construction information, used by architects, engineers, facility owners, and contractors throughout the US and Canada. Hall will be honored at lunch and dinner events on April 6, 2006 in New York City. He is also in consideration to receive the Award of Excellence, ENR’s highest honor, which will be announced in April. For more information see http://www.enr.com/people/people/archives/060109-1.asp

Small Kane Architects is pleased to announce that Andy Jalbert, AIA, LEED A.P, has been hired as Project Architect. Andy holds a Bachelor of Architecture degree from NC State University, is a LEED Accredited Professional, and has 5 years of design experience.

Dennis Furman Architecture is pleased to announce that Colleen E. Duffy, AIA has been promoted to Senior Associate.

William Bevins, FAIA was recently named President of the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB). Mr. Bevins has also served as the President of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB). To become a registered architect, you must meet criterion from both agencies; NAAB is the accrediting agency for architectural degrees while NCARB is the testing agency for registration. Because of the complimentary relationship between the two agencies, it is fortunate for architectural professionals to find William Bevins, FAIA, transitioning his experience between the two agencies. A native of West Virginia, where he was active in the AIA, Mr. Bevins moved to North Carolina; where he has maintained his activity with the AIA, NCARB, and now NAAB. Mr. Bevins also continues his work at Freeman White, in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Jeffrey A. Brooks, AIA, formerly of Columbus, Ohio has joined Dunn & Dalton Architects of Kinston, NC as a new Project Architect. Mr. Brooks brings 19 years of experience in various building projects to this growing eastern North Carolina firm. For the last 6 years, Mr. Brooks has been working in the Educational K-12 market on public and private school projects ranging in cost from $250,000 to over $50 million. Related experience includes: Interpretive centers, military work, custom residential and religion based architecture.

HDR, a national architecture, engineering and consulting firm, recently hired John Pate, AIA as a principal in its Charlotte, N.C. office. Pate, a member of the American Institute of Architects, has 27 years of military and private practice experience as a healthcare architect. His impressive planning and management skills are evident in his project experience which includes the University of California, Davis Medical Center Surgery and Emergency Service Pavilion, Sacramento, California; Langley Air Force Base Hospital, Hampton, Virginia; Zayed Military Medical Center, Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.; and many other major medical center projects. Pate received a bachelor’s of architecture and a bachelor’s of science in environmental design degrees from Auburn University in Alabama. Prior to joining HDR, Pate served on active duty for eight years with the U.S. Army as a Medical Service Corps officer. He continues to serve in the U.S. Army Reserve as a Lieutenant Colonel.
The Obsidian Group is pleased to announce that Mr. Mark Gibson, AIA, has joined the new Raleigh office at 5540 Centerview Drive as a Project Manager. Mark has extensive design experience in corporate and industrial facilities.

SchenkelShultz is pleased to announce the promotion of David L. Liberatore, AIA to Principal and John Foley to Associate. Liberatore has assumed leadership responsibilities associated with efforts in North Carolina, specifically management of the Raleigh, NC office. Foley will assist with leading the Raleigh Office, specifically focusing on the tactical operations of the office. J. Thomas Chandler, President and CEO states: “David and John both have demonstrated the core values and accomplishments that we as a firm look for in our future leaders. I am confident that they will continue to prove to be welcomed assets to the SchenkelShultz leadership team.”

Little Diversified Architectural Consulting, located in Charlotte, is pleased to announce that their Land Development Team of Chad Chastain, Brian Dey, Jim Gamble, David Powlen, Bo Sun, and Dennis Terry recently became LEED accredited professionals. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) professional accreditation distinguishes individuals with detailed knowledge of LEED project certification requirements and processes and a command of integrated design principles.

Architext publishes information about North Carolina firms’ promotions and new employees on a quarterly basis.

To have your firm information included in the next issue of Architext, please contact Heather Q. Vance, AICP, Communications Coordinator for AIA NC by phone - (919) 833-6656, or by email: hvance@aianc.org.

When submitting materials, please use high-quality digital photographs (300dpi or better) and include contact information.

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**Honors & Achievements**

Two projects designed by David E. Gall, Architect, PA of Winston-Salem, NC have earned awards. The relocation and rehabilitation of the historic 1900 Seaboard Rail Depot in Hamlet, NC has received the Gertrude S. Carraway Award of Merit from Preservation North Carolina. Additionally, a commission for a two-car garage for a private property owner in the Washington Park National Register Historic District in Winston-Salem has earned the Joseph Winston Award given by the Winston-Salem / Forsyth County Community Appearance Commission.

The Freelon Group, located in the RTP, is celebrating its 15th Anniversary. The firm, founded in 1990 by Philip G. Freelon, FAIA, has grown from a 3-person staff to over 50 employees. The firm has earned recognition for design excellence in several states, including North Carolina, Washington, D.C., Maryland, and California. The firm has won 15 AIA design awards since 1999. Recently, the firm was awarded two AIA Charlotte awards: a Merit Award for the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture (designed by Freelon / RTKL, a joint venture) and an Honor Award in the Unbuilt Category for the design and the James C. Renick School of Education at North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro.

Innovative Design, located in Raleigh, has designed a system to help the NC Legislative Building collect rainwater and save millions of gallons of water. The building’s rainwater harvesting system will collect, store, and later utilize an average of 2.3 million gallons of water for irrigation. The system has been constructed to capture condensate water from the building’s air conditioning system. This is the first of such state government implemented systems in NC, made possible in part by a grant to Innovative Design from the State Energy Office.

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Global Warming and Building Design: Architecture 2030

Heather Vance

While debate still swirls around the significance of greenhouse gas emissions and their role in creating the phenomenon of global warming, a few things are certain: temperatures are rising; nations are noticing measurable climate shifts and remarkable weather patterns; and organizations are beginning to call for action.

Part of this call includes a position statement from AIA National that outlines the need for architects to respond to the growing problem in an expedient manner. “The AIA,” the statement reads, “recognizes that a growing body of evidence demonstrates current planning, design, and real estate practices contribute to patterns of resource consumption that seriously jeopardize the future of the earth’s population.”

In fact, according to Ed Mazria, FAIA (renowned energy architect and author of The Passive Solar Energy Book,) 76% of all power-plant generated energy is used just to operate buildings. (This is in comparison to the 1% used for transportation and the 23% used for industrial operations.) There is great potential for architects to assume responsibility for changing this percentage by creating more sustainable, “off-the-grid” designs that slow - and possibly reverse - the effects of global climate change. Mazria promotes these facts and more on the website “Architecture 2030” (www.architecture2030.org).

The website includes resources and links to help designers and government officials plan and design for a carbon-neutral future. The site includes designs, statistics, maps and figures that both substantiate the reasons for changing the current rate of energy consumption and outline methods to employ new technologies. On the site, Mazria recommends that all new buildings, developments, and major renovations be designed to use half the fossil fuel energy they would typically consume.

To help motivate architects to meet this responsibility, the AIA has prescribed that the membership “promote integrated / high performance design, including resource conservations, resulting in a minimum 50% or greater reduction in the consumption of fossil fuels used to construct and operate new and renovated buildings by the year 2010 and promote further reductions of 10% or more in each of the following years.” This agreement with Mazria’s assessment of the global climate situation will hopefully further the trend of environmentally responsible design and building.

Mr. Mazria will share more of his knowledge with attendees of the South Atlantic Regional Conference (October 4-6, 2006, in Chattanooga, TN), as a Keynote Speaker. Find out more online: www.aianc.org/SARC/2006SARIndex.htm
The Boney Family
Submitted by Paul Boney, FAIA

“I began my career because I loved to draw. I also enjoyed traveling to project sites with my father (William Boney) and watched him quietly solve issues and make friends in the process. I was ten years old when my grandfather (Leslie Boney Sr.) died and I still remember how he was able to get along with people…and his design ability. I was captured by the opportunity to create things and solve problems. I enjoyed traveling and had a great time with my Uncle Leslie (Leslie Jr.) during marketing trips and going to interviews I started running prints when I was home from tennis tournaments in the summer when I was fourteen years old.

I never seriously considered doing anything else but being an Architect.

The business of architecture is exciting and demanding. The ability to communicate with each other in the family business is the key. My father never forced us to follow him into architecture. He was wonderful, and I miss him every day. When I made this decision to become an architect, he was always there to help, but was never overbearing. He wanted us to find our own way through life as independent thinkers. He was the most patient person I have ever known. As a result, my two brothers have very successful careers outside of architecture.

At one time, Leslie N. Boney, Architect was either the only – or one of the few – firms to have a father and three sons practicing together in the country. I currently practice with my two cousins (Chris and Charles) and other partners, and we have a great working relationship. Our firm recently merged to create a regional firm, which was a logical growth step for us. LS3P is a firm that shares our core values.

I think that the key to a successful family business is to have distinct roles so that family members are not

Members of the Boney family, 2002
competing with one another. My father’s generation had successfully defined these roles.

Uncle Leslie handled marketing and special projects, Uncle Charles handled design and production, and my father handled construction administration and the business aspects of the firm. It worked very well.

In a family business, though, there are some difficulties and interesting situations. In a family business like ours, by the time you get to the third generation, the challenge is to keep that first generation attitude, drive and motivation. You also need to really work at internal communications, making sure that you listen to your colleagues well. I always say, ‘...we have a great respect for the past, but we are clearly focused on the future.’

I really learned this business from the bottom up; I think this is very important in a family business. It makes for a well-respected management team and helps ease transitions. This has been our ‘designing family’ so far; as for our future, others will define that. I do know that our family has made significant contributions back to a profession that we honestly love and respect.

Personally, I want my daughters to make up their own minds and choose careers that will challenge them and make them happy. My wife Lisa and I have given them the ability to be independent thinkers and I am assured that they will make good decisions. I am proud of them no matter what career they choose. Ali and Jessica are both funny, smart kids that I love very much. They will both attend Wake Forest University, and have the opportunity to seek their own paths. This makes all the years of our family’s hard work worthwhile.”

The younger daughter, Kamrin, is displaying a great appreciation of color and form, but of course, no one knows what a six-year-old will do next. It is possible that she may also feel an inherent tug towards a design future.

Working together from their new Fayetteville home office, the Kuenzels emphasize family and harmony before business. “There have been plenty of instances,” Chris says, “where there are differences of opinion. But nothing has been insurmountable. Fortunately, our tastes are extremely similar.” This family business model has also allowed them to enjoy the success of a recent joint venture with another architect, Eric Lindstrom, AIA, in the Cameo Art House Theater. This small theater shows independent films as well as some big-ticket films, and has been a personal and public success.

It is this synergy that will lead them into the future, says Chris. What do they look forward to? “Continuing to do what we’re doing now. We hope to have the opportunity to undertake additional personal projects, making Fayetteville a fun place to be...in the hopes of enticing our daughter to move back home after her college years are done.”
North Carolina’s Designing Families: A State Institution (continued)

The Lineberger Family
Submitted by Steve Lineberger, AIA and Kent Lineberger, AIA

Steve Lineberger graduated from Clemson University in 1981 with a Masters Degree in Architecture; his brother, Kent, graduated from the same school with the same degree in 1985. They have both been interested in Architecture since they were children. Steve, who notes that their father was a conservative banker, admits to being a kid who was “maybe a little too obsessed with staying within the lines.” The Lineberger family had a neighbor who was an architect, though, and his parents helped him realize that architecture might be an “acceptable” design-oriented profession. Kent became more fascinated with architecture as his brother went though school.

The two worked together in large firms in Charlotte several times, sharing some similar interests and skills, but eventually gravitating towards distinct niches within the industry that appealed to them as individuals.

While working with his brother, Steve hired Christa, who would eventually become Kent’s wife. “I like to take credit for hiring Kent’s future wife, who is also a Clemson grad,” says Steve; “you always have to keep a look out for your little brother, you know…especially when he’s over thirty and still single…”

Kent and Christa have been a designing couple since then. “We worked well together and ended up marrying. I started my own firm in 1997 and worked out of a home office for almost seven years. We decided to move the office out of the home a few years ago and she stepped up to help me with the business. We definitely relate to each other through our common interests, design being among them. She now has a business that is complimentary to mine and we share many clients.”

Steve, a father of seventeen-year-old twins, is planning the first European vacation the family has had since having children, as a last “hoorah” before sending the kids off to college at Furman University this fall. “Much like the trips we’ve taken to New York, Chicago, San Francisco, and other cities, I’m sure it will include stops at various museums, architectural wonders, and a host of cultural venues. I’m sure we’ll bring back digital photos…and a greater appreciation for how certain cultures have valued design throughout the ages.”

Sticking together as a designing family is a goal of both brothers. “We certainly hope to work together until we retire,” says Kent, quickly adding: “…do architects ever retire?”
In Memoriam

Marvin R.A. Johnson, FAIA
1916-2006

Marvin Johnson died on Monday, January 30, 2006 at St. Elizabeth’s Hospital in Lincoln, Nebraska. He was 89 years old.

He was born on August 13, 1916 in Humphrey, Nebraska. He earned his Master of Architecture degree at Harvard University, where he was a student of Walter Gropius, FAIA.

He began his architectural work in 1946, in Lincoln. He then moved to North Carolina where he worked for the Division of School Planning of the NC Department of Public Instruction in Raleigh.

In 1968, Marvin was made a Fellow of the AIA. He served as president of AIA North Carolina in 1980. He outlined his objective as Chapter President: to raise public awareness. In his own words: “I want people to realize the contribution good architecture can and does make toward a better life for us all.”

William M. Britt, AIA
1943-2006

Bill Britt, 63, of Cary, NC died Monday, February 20, 2006 after a brief battle with cancer. He was an accomplished architect of over 40 years, having run his own practice for 15 years.

He was born on January 18, 1943 in Clinton, North Carolina. He attended NC State University. He committed his career to designing artistic, functional, beautiful projects that were satisfying to his clients.

Those wishing to make memorial contributions are encouraged to consider Hospice of Wake County, 1300 St. Mary’s Street, Suite 400, Raleigh, NC 27605.

Design Community Unites Again for Legislative Day

For the second year, the major associations representing the design community in North Carolina are joining forces to deliver their legislative messages to the State General Assembly. On Wednesday, May 24, 2006, the State Chapters of the American Institute of Architects, the American Council of Engineering Companies, and the Professional Engineers in North Carolina will hold a joint Legislative Day in Raleigh.

The three groups have been meeting over the past year to define common interests and goals for their members, North Carolina public policy, and future needs of their organizations. The joint Legislative Day is an outgrowth of the new direction for the groups, and a foundation for solidifying a stronger political base for the design industry in the State of NC.

Legislative involvement is a key component for the AIA’s missions, and it is one of the most important - and worthwhile - commitments you can make this year on behalf of your profession. So mark your calendars, and plan to be in Raleigh, NC on May 24, 2006 for this historic event.

Preliminary Schedule of Events:
7:00 - 8:30 Breakfast
8:30 - 9:30 Keynote Speaker & Member Briefing
10:00 - 2:00 Member visits to Legislators’ offices
2:00 Conclude visits, Legislators go into Session

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL AIA SECTION REPRESENTATIVE TO SIGN UP FOR LEGISLATIVE DAY:

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Chapter Awards Submission Deadline: June 2, 2006

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Details

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William M. Britt, AIA

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