Celebrating the past
Designing the future

In 2007 the American Institute of Architects will mark the 150th anniversary of its founding — and, in honor of this anniversary, the AIA will present the nation with a gift. The centerpiece of the yearlong observation of AIA150 is the Blueprint for America, a nationwide community service program that will empower citizens to share in creating a vision for their communities design priorities.

The goal of the Blueprint for America is to help communities see what is possible when architects, mayors and other civic leaders, and fellow citizens collaborate on a community service program that addresses a community's distinct needs and produces a shared vision for a more livable future.

In Nevada, both the AIA Las Vegas and the AIA Northern Nevada Chapters have pledged to emphasize the importance of supporting the 2030 Challenge, integrating sustainability into practice and design and in building more livable communities. Chapter programs and events throughout the year will focus on these areas and members will have the opportunity to join in and make a difference.

April 9 – 14, 2007 is Architecture Week across the nation. Each of the Chapters has planned a variety of events to celebrate. In Las Vegas, and simultaneously in Reno, we will hold a 24-Hour Town Hall Meeting, bringing architects, business and civic leaders and citizens together for the purpose of designing a plan of action for making our city more sustainable and more livable. This plan will become a part of the "Blueprint for Nevada" and will be published for the public, and presented to the Governor, the Mayors, and local and state officials.

Throughout the year, and into the future, the AIA Nevada Livable Community Award will be presented to those individuals and organizations, outside the profession of architecture, who are working to make our cities more livable.

We are asking that all AIA members join with us this year to celebrate the past and design a more beautiful, sustainable and livable future for us all.
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AIA LAS VEGAS
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
Curt Carlson, AIA

Welcome to 2007. It’s a new year with a new Board for the Chapter, a new Governor for the State, newly elected officials in southern Nevada and in Washington and a new attitude for AIA. At the year-end celebration and installation dinner in December, I promised new programs, new activities and new ventures for the Las Vegas Chapter.

Some of the highlights for 2007 include:

1. Developing a new strategic plan for the Las Vegas Chapter.
2. Coordinating our monthly meetings to coincide with and support National AIA themes of AIA150, Grassroots and Sustainability.
3. Coordinating our monthly meetings to address local issues of Livable Communities, increased interaction between local education entities and professionals, providing a more visible presence to the public for the AIA and Sustainability.
4. Moving the Chapter offices to the Fifth Street School by the start of 2008 – and making the offices an example of sustainable practices.
5. Developing a statewide AIA150 program to coincide with National AIA150.
6. Continued success of Architecture Las Vegas, the Product Show and the Design Awards.

In December, I also made a call for new involvement. Some members regard the AIA as a social organization to get together once a month for cocktails. Our organization is much more. The Mission Statement of AIA National is:

The American Institute of Architects is the voice of the architectural profession and the resource for its members in service to society.

This Mission is achieved through four strategic goals:

1. Increase value to members through programs and services that effectively meet, anticipate, and exceed their needs.
2. Optimize organizational culture, structure, and resources to achieve excellence.
3. Be the recognized leader for knowledge about the practice and profession of architecture.
4. Promote the AIA as the credible voice for quality design and the built environment.

The Las Vegas Chapter supports the National goals through a variety of means. Membership meetings, lunchtime CEU seminars, lecture programs, scholarship programs, government advocacy and lobbying and the publication of Architecture Las Vegas are all ways in which we support these goals. We have lobbying efforts in Carson City and Washington DC that are used to reinforce our views to the politicians who serve us. Some politicians share our views and some need to be persuaded to see things differently. We have the opportunity to work with them on issues that concern us - such as Sustainability, Design-Build and financial responsibility and liability on projects. We have opportunities to work with the educational entities to help refine curriculum and practices to better serve the needs of the professional community. We have the ability to demonstrate to the community at large that sustainable buildings and sustainable business practices can benefit the community in the short term and the long term. We have the opportunity to give back to our communities by providing leadership, advocacy and involvement with critical issues.

All of this effort needs two very vital resources from our members: time and money. We have an operating budget of over $800,000 for 2007, with the majority of this funding being raised through sponsorships, advertising and donations. We have committees that organize, promote and run these programs and events, and the AIA needs you. Throughout this month’s newsletter there are listings of 2007 committees and the committee chairpersons. Please find an area of interest and volunteer support through time or money.

We all need to work together to ensure the continued success of the Las Vegas chapter – get involved.
JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING
AIA 150 AND CREATING A LIVABLE COMMUNITY

The plans for AIA Las Vegas to celebrate the AIA 150 will begin with our January Meeting – being held on Wednesday, January 31st – when we welcome Christine McEntee, President and Chief Executive Officer of the American Institute of Architects. Christine will talk with us about the work that is being done on the national level by the Institute, and how Chapters across the country are supporting this effort. The details of the AIA Las Vegas “Blueprint for Las Vegas” will be announced, and all members will have the opportunity to participate.

As a little background on the 150, it all began on February 23, 1857, when 13 architects met in Richard Upjohn’s office in New York to form what would become the American Institute of Architects. The group sought to create an architecture organization that would “promote the scientific and practical perfection of its members” and “elevate the standing of the profession.”

Up until that time anyone who wished to call him—or herself an architect could do so. This included masons, carpenters, bricklayers, and other members of the building trades. No schools of architecture or architectural licensing laws existed to shape the calling. The first steps of this small group of 13 were to change the profession of architecture in the United States profoundly. And, the rest…..as they say…..is history.

The AIA has made history and to celebrate that fact….and the profound impact that architects have had in the shaping of our country, 2007 will be a year of remembrance and rededication. AIA National will launch a nationwide celebration and AIA Chapters across the country will commemorate the AIA 150 by working to make their communities more livable and sustainable.

AIA Las Vegas is a leader in this effort. Our plans for the 150 involve all AIA members…public officials …..and the citizens of southern Nevada…. We will work together to better our environment, incorporate sustainable measures and planning and make Las Vegas a more livable city!

Join us on Wednesday, January 31st at 5:30PM. Caesars Palace, Palace III Ballroom. The sponsor for this meeting is SH Architecture. Don’t forget to RSVP to Kelly Lavigne at klavigne@alanevada.org or call 895-0936.

FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING
“THE ARCHITECT AS LEGISLATOR”

2007 is a legislative year in Nevada. With a new Governor and newly elected public officials we can expect new legislation on both the state and federal levels, that could impact how architects practice as well as the future of the profession. Architects can no longer ignore the importance of taking an assertive role in the political arena. Architects must stand up and take the lead in their communities – become candidates for office, seek out and accept board positions and public office, become political, unselfishly, community and professional leaders. The February meeting will bring “citizen architects” and national representatives to discuss how you, as an architect, can utilize your skills to better your community. (Speakers being confirmed.)

Join us on Wednesday, February 21 at 5:30PM in the 2nd Floor Ballroom at the Gold Coast Hotel. Don’t forget to RSVP to Kelly Lavigne at klavigne@alanevada.org or call 895-0936.

MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING
“THE FUTURE OF AIA LAS VEGAS”

The new Strategic Plan for the Chapter will be announced at this meeting and the future of AIA Las Vegas will be discussed. The meeting will be held in an exciting location (currently being confirmed) and the specifics of our mission, goals and future will be presented.

Join us on Wednesday, March 21 at 5:30PM at the location to be announced. Don’t forget to RSVP to Kelly Lavigne at klavigne@alanevada.org or call 895-0936.

CONFIRMATION OF YOUR RSVP

The AIA Las Vegas policy on RSVP’s for meetings is as follows: When you make your RSVP for the meeting (by phone or email), you will receive a confirmation from Kelly. If you are bringing a guest please let us know the guest’s name. If you simply show up at the meeting without a confirmation, and you are not on the RSVP list, you will be charged for the meeting and will receive an invoice. Also, if you do RSVP for the meeting and then don’t attend, you will be charged for the meeting. Please help us by providing your RSVP as soon as possible after you receive the first newsletter or email notice.
GRASSROOTS – PRIORITY ISSUES FROM THE FEDERAL AGENDA

When we go to Washington, DC this year for the Grassroots Leadership and Legislative Conference (February 6-10) the focus will be on three very key issues of sustainability.

I. Federal Building Energy Efficiency – Promoting the adoption of the 2030 Challenge in all Federal Buildings

II. Sustainable Design and Water Quality – Promoting an amendment to the Clean Water Act to develop green infrastructure that will reduce the amount of pollutants in the built environment.


To review each of these issues in full, see the “issue briefs” posted to the website at http://www.aia.org/adv_grassroots2007 If you have comments or additional information to add please contact those who will be representing you in DC this year:

Wade Simpson, AIA – President, AIA Nevada
Larry Macias, AIA – Grassroots Leadership Chair
Curt Carlson, AIA – President, AIA Las Vegas
Mark Hobaica, AIA – President-elect, AIA Las Vegas
Randy Lavigne, Hon. AIA – Executive Director

SILENT AUCTION A SUCCESS

The Silent Auction, held each year, is the main fundraiser for the Scholarship Endowment Fund. Shelly Ann Hayden, AIA chaired the committee for the last four years and deserves a pat on the back for a job well done. For this year’s auction, she collected more than 30 items, which generated $3,700.00 in income. Our thanks to all those who donated items for the auction, to those of you who bid for and purchased the items and especially to Shelly Hayden, AIA for her hard work and dedication in making the silent auction a success.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE AIA LV HIGH SCHOOL DESIGN CONTEST

AIA Las Vegas is looking for a few good mentors to pair with the high school classes participating in this year’s design contest.

This year, the contest project is to master plan an artist colony near the Clark County Government Center. The major components of this plan include housing and a community center. After the class has completed the Masterplan together, each student chooses a building on the master plan to develop on their own.

We will try to match each mentor with a high school class that requests one. (Not all schools take advantage of the contest or offer.) Typically, as a mentor, you will visit the drafting class and give desk crits, food for thought talks, or even talk a bit about the profession. You will provide an additional point of view to support the teacher’s planned activities. You are not there to take over teaching the class to relieve the teacher of their teaching responsibilities.

What is the time commitment? That will depend on your availability and how often the teacher feels they need a mentor. In the past, we have assigned multiple mentors to a class so that the commitment could be shared between two or three people. Your work will begin when the teacher decides to introduce the class to their class and continue until the contest submissions are due in late March 2007.

If you are interested, please contact Michele Tayengco, AIA at mtayengco@wellespugleyarchitect.com. Alternatively, you can reach her at 702-435-1150.

2007 AIA LAS VEGAS EVENT CALENDAR

January 31 - “The AIA 150 and Building a Livable Community” - 5:30PM

February 20 - AIA Las Vegas Strategic Planning Session - (Board of Directors)

February 21 – “The Architect as Legislator”
5:30PM – Gold Coast Hotel, 2nd Floor Ballroom

March 21 - “The Future of AIA Las Vegas”
5:30PM – World Market Center (Tour)

April 9-14 – Architecture Week
Officially designated as National Architecture Week and AIA LV will offer a variety of events and activities to celebrate.


Alan Hess Lecture – “Mid-Century Architecture” Lecture offered in conjunction with the Morelli House tour and Architecture Las Vegas magazine reception. Held in the community center located directly across the street from the Morelli House.

April 11 - AIA Las Vegas High School Design Awards – Our annual recognition of fledgling your designers. 2nd Floor Ballroom at the Gold Coast Hotel. 5:30PM

April 13-14 - 24-Hour Town Hall Meeting – AIA members, affiliated organizations, community groups and everyone is invited to participate in this concentrated effort to define what OUR livable community should include. This meeting and the ideas generated here will help to formulate our “Blueprint for Las Vegas”.

April 27 - Spring Putting Tournament
6PM – Angel Park Golf Course

May 16 - “The Art of Architectural Photography”
5:30PM – Location TBA

May 21 - 34th Annual AIA Las Vegas Golf Tournament
8AM – Spanish Trail Golf Course

June 20 - “Project Tour” – To be Announced
5:30PM – Location TBA

September 7 - Fall Putting Tournament
6PM – Angel Park Golf Course

October 3 - AIA Las Vegas Product Show
3:00 – 8:00PM – Location TBA

October 27 – AIA Nevada Excellence in Design & Distinguished Service Awards - 6:00PM – Location TBA

November 14 - “Meeting the 2030 Challenge”
5:30PM – Location TBA

December 12 - AIA Las Vegas Holiday Celebration
6PM, Location TBA
PRESIDENT'S AWARD RECIPIENTS
FINE EXAMPLES OF HOW TO BE AN ARCHITECT

Before bringing his year as President to a close, Wade Simpson, AIA, announced two recipients of the 2006 President's Award during the program at the Holiday Celebration on December 14th.

"Both of these architects", he stated, "are past presidents of AIA who have been special examples to me during my career of what AIA membership embodies. There are many members who have provided great service to AIA and have worked hard throughout their careers, but these two epitomize and represent the many who have given while not seeking the recognition. They are fine examples of what it means to be an architect and to serve the profession and your community."

In his recognition of Gary Guy Wilson, AIA, Simpson stated, "He was Chapter President in 1973. I did not know him then, it was 1980 when I met him, I was working for my father, Bill Simpson, when my father had a stroke. The Chapter President then was Harry Campbell, AIA. They organized members to come in and help me close down the office. I was a 16 year-old punk kid. Gary Guy Wilson came by each day...took a set of drawings home - red-lined them and then returned in the morning to review them with me. I'd work on them all day...and he'd come back in the evening and we'd go through the process again... until all the work was done. For his example to me on how to serve... I present this Presidents Award to Gary Guy Wilson, AIA."

In honoring Dave Welles, AIA Emeritus, Simpson stated, "He was my mentor and taught me how to run a business. He demonstrated patience, honesty and fairness. He was supportive of his employees and held us together as a team. He showed me how to appreciate people and let them know they are valued. He has a lifelong commitment to learning and taught me many things. He currently teaches a continuing education class at UNLV. For being an excellent example to me of how to be an architect.... I present the President's Award to David Welles, AIA Emeritus.

FRIEDLANDER SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCED

Mollie Friedlander, Business Administrator for Western Technologies, Inc. and long-time AIA Allied member, has donated $10,000.00 to the AIA Las Vegas Scholarship Endowment Fund, to establish a scholarship in the memory of her daughter, Felicia. The announcement was made during the AIA Las Vegas Holiday Celebration at the Bellagio on December 14th.

Mollie’s daughter, Felicia, was interested in design and was a student at Community College of Southern Nevada when she passed away following a severe asthma attack in 1995.

"This is something I’ve wanted to do for many years, and I am pleased to be able to finally establish the scholarship through the AIA," said Mollie.

The donation will fund a $1,000.00 scholarship each year for a UNLV Architecture Student. The exact criteria for the scholarship is being written and will be included in the 2007 AIA Las Vegas Scholarship booklet, made available to all UNLV students in January.

"This is a most generous and loving tribute," said Wade Simpson, AIA President of AIA Las Vegas. "And on behalf of the architectural community our thanks to Mollie for helping to secure the future of the profession."
AIA LAS VEGAS AND THE 5TH STREET SCHOOL

The 5th Street School is one of the most important historic buildings in downtown Las Vegas. Considered a real treasure, the mission-style structure was built in 1939, and served as a school from over 40 years, before being utilized as offices for various city departments. The City of Las Vegas is in the process of renovating the property, and making it useful once again for the community.

As it in answer to the Chapter’s wish to have a more visible presence in Las Vegas, the City as requested that we become a tenant in the 5th Street School. The office space is 1450 square feet, located on the northeast corner of the building (on Las Vegas Boulevard, immediately across the street from the Federal Courthouse.) Other tenants will include UNLV School of Architecture and the Nevada School of the Arts.

The target date for move-in is January 2008. Throughout 2007 we will be preparing for the move. This new location will allow AIA to have a more public identity, and will provide the opportunity for us to interact with the public more readily. We are hoping that all AIA Allied Members will work with us in furnishing and equipping the new space, and in making it a real showplace for the architectural community.

To learn more about the project and the benefits of assisting in the design and planning of the new AIA offices contact Randy Lavigne, Hon. AIA at the AIA office – 702.895.0936.

CHECK YOUR WEBSITES

WWW.AIALASVEGAS.ORG
This is your home site with a new look and more information posted. We believe you will find the new site more user friendly. For any questions regarding AIA LV events, sponsorship opportunities, advertising, publications, documents or member searches, please visit our cyber office for a fast answer!

WWW.AIANEVADA.ORG
This is your AIA Nevada website. You will want to check for updates on new legislation and issues that affect the profession, and possibly need your attention or action. This is also where you’ll find information on the 2005 AIA Nevada Excellence in Design and Distinguished Service Awards program, and links to all vital AIA resources.

WWW.AIAWMR.ORG
This is your Western Mountain Region website. Check it often for issues that concern our region and for the latest updates from AIA National Board Meetings. You’ll also find information here on the 2007 WMR Conference and the WMR Design and Honor Awards Programs.

WWW.THEAIA TRUST.COM
This is your site for your AIA benefits provided through the AIA Trust. Check it often for insurance, retirement and legal information.

ARE YOU ABOUT TO CHANGE JOBS?
IS YOUR OFFICE MOVING? HAS YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGED?

We need you to contact us with your new information! Please call Kelly Lavigne at 702.895.0936 or email your new info to klavigne@aianevada.org.

You should also note that architects, residential designers and interior designers who hold a certificate of registration are required to advise NSBAIDRD in writing of any change of address or place of employment within 30 days after the change.

ARCHITECTURE LAS VEGAS is an award-winning magazine, and the only publication that addresses architecture and design issues in the Las Vegas community.

As an annual publication, the magazine provides an extended shelf-life and is available on newsstands and bookstores nationally as well as online at aialasvegas.org.

With a distribution of 35,000 copies, Architecture Las Vegas will be sent to the top 10,000 architecture firms in the country, as well as the higher demographic of subscribers to Nevada Public Radio, KNPR and over 1,500 key decision makers in the Las Vegas Valley.

With an average 2.5 readers per copy, the magazine provides a total readership of over 85,000.

Our 2007 issue will also be distributed nationally to major bookstores and newsstands including Barnes & Nobel and Borders.
CITY OF LAS VEGAS Launches NEW FEATURE ON WEB SITE
STATUS OF APPLICATIONS CAN NOW BE CHECKED ONLINE

A new online feature will allow the public to check the status of their applications with the Planning and Development and Land Development Division using the city's Web site.

"This new feature will assist applicants in finding out the current status of their application without having to place a phone call or take a drive," said Margo Wheeler, director of Planning and Development.

The Department of Planning and Development and the Public Works division of land development have been working with the city’s Information Technologies Department in adding a new feature to the city of Las Vegas Web site to provide application status information from the Hansen system.

This application may be accessed by visiting the city’s Web site at www.lasvegasnevada.gov and using the "I want to" function to check the status on development applications.

For more information, contact Rene Carlsten, Planning and Development senior tech systems analyst, at (702) 229-6301.

TWO MORE CITY PLANNERS RECEIVE PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

City of Las Vegas Planning Manager Doug Rankin and Planning Supervisor John Korkosz have attained the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) designation. For the first time, the entire management staff of the city’s Planning and Development Department holds this prestigious professional certification.

AICP is the American Planning Association’s (APA) professional institute, and provides recognized leadership nationwide in the certification of professional planners, ethics, professional development, planning education and the standards of planning practice. APA members must meet certain education and experience requirements to be eligible to take the rigorous written examination. Certified planners use their skills to find solutions to community problems in ways that will carry the community toward its desired long-term goals.

"The department is proud to support the continuing education of our professional planners and their efforts to achieve the highest levels of professional accomplishment," said Planning Director Margo Wheeler, AICP. "Planners have a special responsibility to serve the public interest with compassion for the welfare of all people and to act with the highest integrity."

Currently, 35 professional planners work for the city of Las Vegas Planning and Development Department and over a third have received their professional accreditation.

The Planning and Development Department prepares and implements the city’s master and special area plans, manages the entitlement process, and counsels on development that will enhance the quality of life of the citizens of Las Vegas. The department provides information on zoning and development reviews, conducts long range planning and gathers and analyzes demographic and economic data.
SCHEIDEMAN REMEMBERED WITH LIVABLE COMMUNITY AWARD

Dale Scheideman, AIA, Director of Construction and Planning for the Clark County School District, and past president of both the AIA Nevada and Las Vegas Chapters has been honored posthumously with the AIA Nevada Livable Community Award. The announcement was made at the AIA Las Vegas Holiday Celebration on December 14th.

"Dale certainly deserves to be recognized for his efforts to build a better community through Clark County Schools," said Windom Kimsey, FAIA, Chair of the AIA150 Committee. "Dale believed in and worked for sustainable design in schools and it is through his efforts that substantial progress has been made in integrating sustainability into all school facilities. Dale also believed that schools should be functional for the whole community and could make communities more livable by being used as the center for community activities. We are pleased to remember him with this award."

The AIA Nevada Livable Community Award is presented to those individuals and organizations who contribute to making our communities more sustainable and more livable.

LIVABLE COMMUNITY AWARDS

There are people in Nevada who are working everyday to make our community a better and more enjoyable place to live. They should be recognized for their efforts and encouraged to continue their work. For this reason, the AIA Nevada Livable Community Award was established. It recognizes those individuals and organizations whose dedication, commitment and contributions to the security, arts and culture, revitalization, beauty and sustainability of our communities have made Nevada a better place to live.

If you know, work with, or are affiliated with an individual or firm that you think should be recognized, please fill out the enclosed flyer and fax to 702.895.4417.


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SUSTAINABILITY, THE STRAW THAT STIRS LAS VEGAS’ SPRINGS PRESERVE
NON-GAMING ATTRACTION CELEBRATES LAS VEGAS’ NATURAL RESOURCES, HISTORY
BY RUSSELL BONIFACE
ASSOCIATE EDITOR AIARCHITECT

Green living and green building are the theme of the new Las Vegas Springs Preserve, a 180-acre, $250 million cultural attraction located off the Las Vegas Strip on a natural springs site. The preserve is composed of 11 buildings constructed of environmentally friendly, recycled, or re-used materials, such as straw bale, soda bottles, and sustainable lumber. The complex, applying for LEED® Platinum status, forms a destination of sustainability museums, botanical gardens, and trails. Las Vegas-based Lucchesi and Gaiai Architects is the primary designer. The preserve will open in May 2007.

The Springs Preserve site became a national historic site in 1978 because it is considered the birthplace of Las Vegas. The concept for the Springs Preserve attraction was originated by the Las Vegas Valley Water District, which owns the land. The preserve is financed by the district, $48 million dollars from federal land sales, and private donations.

The heart of the project is a “green” museum called the Desert Living Center, a complex of five buildings constructed of rice straw-bale, the largest straw-bale construction project in the country. Sustainable components of the living-center and preserve development include:

- Carpets made from recycled soda bottles
- A 35-acre natural wetland that reclaims on-site wastewater
- Certified sustainable lumber
- Rammed-earth walls
- Reclaimed timber
- Radiant floor heating
- Towers for evaporative cooling systems
- Low-VOC paints, furniture, fabrics, and wood.

DESERT HISTORY MEETS SUSTAINABILITY

Jeff Roberts, AIA—the Lucchesi and Gaiai Architects project manager and lead architect—says the preserve buildings will serve as an interactive sustainable exhibit. “I hope the sustainability angle will attract people to visit. There’s a new generation, especially in this region, looking for energy alternatives. Interest in sustainability is turning,”

Jesse Davis, public relations and marketing manager at the preserve, says sustainability is half the attraction. “The other half is the historic element. We’re breaking through the stereotypical mold of Las Vegas history that most people associate with the Strip by showing how the springs originally drew people here to this valley.” If not for the springs at the preserve site, explains Davis, Las Vegas might be located elsewhere.

“Conceptually, our project was created to promote water conservation because of the scarcity of water in this city,” Davis points out. “But since conservation extends into a broader living ethic today, the preserve’s model of sustainability will extend far beyond just conserving water.”

LOOKING TO PAST DESERT ARCHITECTURE

Roberts explains that the project design kept the style of the preserve buildings small and indigenous to the area. “We looked at principles from past desert cultures that could teach us, such as Pueblo architecture and how, for example, in their cliff dwellings they designed for the harvest. We took the way they designed for sun, wind, and weather and tied that into our design. An example is our cool towers for passive cooling and a radiant heating system of hot solar water heating slabs, which in turn are cooled by the rammed earth. There are no mechanical systems in the building.”

SUSTAINABILITY TO PUT A SPRING IN VISITORS’ STEPS

Rather than talking about green buildings, the preserve takes visitors through each design element. “We aren’t just developing LEED-rated buildings for the sake of it,” declares Davis. “We’re interpreting the buildings for visitors. We will have exhibit walks taking visitors through the buildings while explaining the ‘green’ products that went into them. Visitors will also learn the operations required to maintain the LEED rating.”

Straw bale walls for all five Desert Living Center buildings and recycled soda bottles used for carpeting throughout the Preserve are examples of the sustainable elements visitors will experience firsthand. “The rice straw is a great insulator, eliminates agricultural waste, and great for keeping sound and heat out,” says Roberts. “There are many straw bale homes in the Southwest, so it’s appropriate for our design.”

The project includes reused materials, such as support trusses in the Desert Living Center made of timber from an old railroad trestle bridge that crossed Salt Lake. “You can actually see the original markings in the wood,” enthuses Davis.

THE MEADOWS

Educational galleries, a design lab, dialogue centers, and teaching facilities will also celebrate sustainability. A 97,000-square-foot attraction of galleries and theaters called the Orig•gen Experience will showcase early Spanish inhabitants who called the preserve home. “Las Vegas means the meadows,” explains Davis. “Spanish explorers discovered the site. The preserve is the first destination to actually document that physically. We’re attempting to reveal the true origins of the city and be dedicated to today’s sustainable principles.”

“Everybody portrays Las Vegas as an opulent culture,” says Roberts. “If there is a sin here, you can find it. We’re fighting that trend. We want to teach people we can be as sustainable as any city.”
AIA NEVADA LIVABLE COMMUNITY AWARDS

As a part of the statewide AIA 150 Celebration, AIA Nevada has established the Livable Community Award

The purpose of the award is to recognize and salute those individuals and organizations, outside of the architectural community, whose dedication, commitment and contributions to the security, arts and culture, revitalization, beauty and sustainability of our communities are making Nevada a better place to live.

Our hope is that through this recognition and award we will generate a greater awareness of what it takes to build a livable community. There are many individual Nevadans who are working everyday to make our communities better and create safer, more beautiful, sustainable and enjoyable places to live. They should be recognized for their efforts and encouraged to continue their work. Our plan is to recognize at least three individuals, firms or organizations each month, and to do this we need your help.

If you know someone or are affiliated with an individual, organization or firm that you think should be recognized for their efforts to make our community a better place, please use this form to make your nomination. The AIA Nevada Executive Committee will review the nominations monthly, and will select individuals or organizations to be recognized.

Livable Community Award
Nomination Form

My Name

I would like to nominate ___________________________ to be considered to receive an AIA Nevada Livable Community Award.

Nominee Firm or Affiliation ___________________________

Nominee Address ____________________________ City ______ State _____ Zip ______

Nominee Phone ____________________________ Nominee Email ____________________________

Please provide the reason for the nomination and detail the contributions made by this individual or organization:

Use additional pages if necessary.

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JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: AIA150 AND CREATING A LIVABLE COMMUNITY

The plans for AIA Las Vegas to celebrate the AIA150 will begin with our January Meeting when we welcome Christine McEntee, President and Chief Executive Officer of the American Institute of Architects. Christine will talk with us about the work that is being done on the national level by the Institute, and how Chapters across the country are supporting this effort. The details of the AIA Las Vegas "Blueprint for Las Vegas" will be announced, and all members will have the opportunity to participate.

The AIA has made history and to celebrate that fact and the profound impact that architects have had in the shaping of our country, 2007 will be a year of remembrance and rededication. AIA National will launch a nationwide celebration and AIA Chapters across the country will commemorate the AIA150 by working to make their communities more livable and sustainable.

AIA Las Vegas is a leader in this effort. Our plans for the 150 involve all AIA members, public officials and the citizens of southern Nevada. We will work together to better our environment, incorporate sustainable measures and planning and make Las Vegas a more livable city!

This program is registered for AIA CE Credits. Credits can only be given to those who sign-in at the beginning of the meeting and sign-out at the end of the presentation.

AIA LAS VEGAS RSVP FORM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31ST
Caesars Palace, Palace III Ballroom
RECEPTION 5:30PM
PROGRAM 6:30PM

Sponsored by
SH Architecture

AIA LAS VEGAS RSVP POLICY:
TO ATTEND PLEASE
RSVP TO KLAVIGNE@AIANEVADA.ORG
OR 702-895-0936
BY MONDAY, JANUARY 29TH

THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR AIA MEMBERS WHO RSVP; NON-MEMBERS AND GUESTS ARE $35.00 EACH. IF YOU RSVP AND THEN DON'T SHOW UP, YOU WILL BE INVOICED; IF YOU DON'T RSVP AND JUST WALK IN YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY $35.00.
"Looking Forward"

Happy New Year to everyone. I look forward to a year of clearly defined goals and high productivity.

As we begin the year our state chapter is working to prepare for the Grassroots Leadership and Legislative Conference in Washington, DC - February 7-11. For AIA Nevada and for AIA national, the focus is on SUSTAINABILITY. We will be discussing three key areas for federal legislation with our congressional representatives: 1) Federal Building Energy Efficiency, promoting the adoption of the 2030 Challenge in all federal buildings, 2) Sustainable Design and Water Quality, promoting an amendment to the Clean Water Act to develop green infrastructure that will reduce the amount of pollutants in the built environment, and 3) Tax Deductions for Energy Efficient Commercial Buildings - promoting a tax break for green buildings that are built for commercial use. In addition, we will be discussing the need for affordable housing, alternative energy sources, and the critical issue of water in Nevada. Should you have information or comments that will help with our discussions on these topics, please contact me or the AIA Nevada office. We welcome your involvement.

2007 is also a Nevada State Legislative Year. Here we are working with the state board to write appropriate continuing education enactment legislation as a condition of license renewal. We do not like the idea of more government, however, the importance of this issue should not be overlooked. We are all working to improve the value of being a professional, and to take every step possible to secure the health, safety and welfare of the public. We feel it cannot be done without continuing education and a strong criteria for licensure renewal.

I am also looking forward to October and the AIA Nevada Excellence in Design Awards program. With so many exciting projects underway in the state, we are certain to have many great submittals. This year's event will be hosted by the AIA Las Vegas Chapter so watch for the call for entries and make plans to participate and attend.

I hope all have reviewed 2006 and can begin 2007 with a renewed sense of energy and hope in meeting the challenges of the New Year....and reaching our goals both personal and professional. Happy New Year....and here we go!
AIA 150 - BLUEPRINT FOR AMERICA

The flagship program of AIA150, the Blueprint for America engages the profession in service to communities across the nation, working collaboratively with government officials and business leaders, engaging citizens in dialogue, sharing basic community design principles, identifying neighborhood conditions in need of improvement, and, along the way, demonstrating the visionary role of architects in creating a better quality of life for all.

AIA members, working through more than 280 AIA state and local components, will collaborate with mayors, local government officials, other professionals, and their fellow citizens to define and advocate a shared vision for healthier, safer, and more dynamic communities. The component-led initiatives will tackle such issues as accessibility, affordable housing, homelessness, sprawl, disaster preparedness, and renewal of infrastructure, among others. Selection of projects will be guided by the unique needs identified in each community and the criteria in the AIA Center for Communities by Design's "Ten Principles of Livability."

The AIA launched its nationwide Blueprint for America community service program on May 19, 2006 by awarding grants to 60 components. On October 13, 2006 the AIA awarded supplemental grants to an additional 96 components in support of their community visioning initiatives. View abstracts of current Blueprint for America initiatives and understand why these projects qualify as an AIA Blueprint for America initiative by reviewing the criteria.

A compendium of the local programs will be gathered within a framework, providing a national mosaic with interrelated themes, issues, and solutions designed by AIA architects, community members, and community partners. The resulting mosaic will be presented to the nation as a gift for the future and as a testament to the value of design and the AIA architect.

For more information, please go to www.aia150.org.

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THE "2030 °CHALLENGE"
BY RICK VAN DIEPEN, ASSOC. AIA
AIA LAS VEGAS COTE COMMITTEE

If you were one of the lucky few to catch the talk by Ed Mazria, AIA at the Klaic Juba lecture series this Fall, you were hopefully as enlightened (and at the same time sobered) as I was by the dire prospects of the continuing environmental degradation of the planet, much of it a result of our own profession. Our present situation requires immediate attention and we as architects can make a profound impact on the condition of global warming & climate change simply by making a commitment to designing high quality buildings that reduce significantly the energy they consume and the amount of carbon dioxide they produce. Mr. Mazria made a great point that we are actually at an exciting point in the history of the country and of our profession because we have a very unique opportunity to truly change the world simply by making a few modest changes in the daily course of our work.

AIA National and AIA Las Vegas have signed on to the 2030 Challenge issued by Mr. Mazria to educate our membership with the goal of reducing the amount of fossil fuel that is consumed by new buildings by 50% before 2030. This goal would eventually reduce the amount of CO2 (the primary greenhouse gas) in the atmosphere to pre-industrial levels, which would in turn keep the global temperature from rising beyond 2 °C, the level where worldwide flooding and devastation would begin to occur. This may seem difficult at first glance but this is actually a very attainable goal, and will no doubt have a lasting and positive impact on our profession by adding value and legitimacy to the role of the architect.

As architects in this very unique city and state, and being insulated to a large degree from the market swings that affect other parts of the country, it is sometimes hard to remember that we are nevertheless integrally tied into a larger context; that of the worldwide ecosystem. We are all so busy trying to keep our head above water in this crazy building boom that many of us probably think that the idea of integrating sustainability into our daily practice is simply out of our reach, even if we agree with it in concept. The fact of the matter is that we can't afford to continue with the standard unsustainable model of production architecture that disregards the global environment; we must instead work together as a profession to educate ourselves and to make steps toward integrating sustainable concepts into our daily routine. No office is able to turn itself around overnight and become a Green firm but there are many ways to introduce affordable or no-cost, time-proven sustainable designs measures into every project, even if a client doesn't explicitly ask for a Green building or a LEED rating. Most of the firms that are now at the forefront of the green building revolution started out slowly by building up their level of proficiency and experience one project and one experiment at a time.

This column will be a recurring feature in future newsletters and we hope you will help us by contributing your past and current experiences integrating green building and sustainable design into your daily practice. In the meantime I would highly recommend that you rent, An Inconvenient Truth, which just came out on DVD. Regardless of your political opinion of Al Gore, his research into the affects of global warming since the 1970's will no doubt open your eyes to the immediacy of the problem that Ed Mazria and thousands of people nationwide are trying to remedy with the 2030 Challenge.

For more information go to www.2030challenge.org
EDWARD LARRABEE BARNES, FAIA, SELECTED FOR 2007 AIA GOLD MEDAL

BY RUSSELL BONIFACE
ASSOCIATE EDITOR AIA ARCHITECT

The AIA Board of Directors voted on December 7 to award posthumously the 2007 AIA Gold Medal to Edward Larrabee Barnes, FAIA. Barnes is remembered for fusing Modernism with vernacular architecture and understated design.

The AIA Gold Medal, awarded annually, is the highest honor the AIA confers on an architect. The Gold Medal honors an individual whose significant body of work has had a lasting influence on the theory and practice of architecture. Barnes will be commemorated at the American Architectural Foundation Accent on Architecture Gala, February 9, 2007, at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C.

In describing Barnes, Henry N. Cobb, FAIA, founding partner with I.M. Pei of Pei Cobb Freed & Partners, enthused in his letter of support: “With characteristically quiet determination, Edward Barnes produced a large body of distinguished built work—some of them too-little celebrated—during his more than 40 years of practice. Although Barnes was modest perhaps to a fault and often seemed to operate ‘below the radar’ of critical acclaim, his influence has nonetheless been broad and deep.”

“This would mean a tremendous amount to my father. Thank you very much,” said John Barnes when AIA President Kate Schwennsen, FAIA, called to tell him about the Board’s selection. “I can’t thank you enough.”

MODEST, GEOMETRIC SIGNATURE

Barnes was noted for crisp, geometric buildings in both rural and urban landscapes that didn’t call attention to themselves, much like the architect himself. His work includes:

- Haystack Mountain School of Crafts on Deer Isle, Maine, a village of shingled cottages placed on the National Register of Historic Places
- Crown Center in Kansas City, an 85-acre, low-rise commercial office complex that handsomely shapes the cityscape
- 590 Madison Avenue (formerly the IBM Building) in New York City, an elegant, nearly triangular, taut giant with a bamboo court atrium epicenter
- 599 Lexington Avenue, also in New York, a sharply chiseled showcase of skyscraper angles

- The Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, a helical sequence of galleries known for its quiet elegance
- The Dallas Museum of Art, a limestone composition of geometric forms that, while dominated by an imposing 40-foot-high barrel vault, seems to recede before the works within it
- Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building in Washington, D.C., with its dramatic five-story glass atrium at its main entrance
- The Sarah M. Scaife Gallery at the Carnegie Institute of Pittsburgh, a light-filled space respected for its graciousness.

Barnes’ museum designs seemed to reflect his modest personality. In Barnes’ own words: “We are trying to create architecture that does not compete with art—to put the priorities in the right order. It is flow more than function that concerns us. There must be a sense of going somewhere, like a river. At the same time the architecture must be relatively uneventful and anonymous.”

Barnes becomes the 63rd AIA Gold Medalist, joining the ranks of such visionaries as Thomas Jefferson (1993), Frank Lloyd Wright (1949), Louis Sullivan (1944), LeCorbusier (1961), Louis Kahn (1971), I.M. Pei (1979), Cesar Pelli (1995), Santiago Calatrava (2005), and last year’s recipient, Antoine Predock. Barnes was 89 when he died in 2004. In recognition of his legacy to architecture, his name will be chiseled into the granite Wall of Honor in the lobby of the AIA headquarters in Washington, D.C.
BUILDINGGREEN ANNOUNCES
2006 TOP 10 GREEN BUILDING PRODUCTS

BEYOND GREEN BuildingGreen Inc., publisher of the GreenSpec® Directory and Environmental Building News, announced its 2006 Top 10 Green Building Products on November 15. This fifth annual award recognizes the most exciting products drawn from additions to the two publications. Three of BuildingGreen’s winning products this year save energy, two save water, three products are made from recycled waste, one salvages material, and the last turns concrete into a “great flooring option for commercial buildings.”

The range of product types showing exemplary innovation is amazing,” noted GreenSpec co-editor Alex Wilson. “Most of the Top 10 products this year have multiple environmental attributes.” BuildingGreen’s Top 10 product selections, as in previous years, are drawn primarily from new additions to the company’s GreenSpec product directory, which now includes more than 2,100 listings.

A big driver in the development of green products continues to be the U.S. Green Building Council’s LEED® Rating System (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), which awards points for the use of certain product types or for the energy or water savings that green products can achieve. “Designers of LEED buildings are looking for green products, and manufacturers are responding,” said Wilson. In the online version of GreenSpec, users can find products organized by LEED credits.

LOCAL ARCHITECT OFFERS AID IN NAIROBI, KENYA
HOW CAN OUR MEMBERS HELP?
BY ROY BURSON, AIA
JVC ARCHITECTS

I have just returned from an experience of a lifetime. My wife Paula, my 14-year-old stepson Britley and I spent an amazing two weeks in Kenya (the twins stayed with grandma), where we were not only fortunate enough to see wildlife in its natural habitat but also interact with the people and donate supplies to needy orphanages. By living in the United States where everything we want is readily available at our fingertips, we sometimes forget that items such as baby formula, school supplies and clean water are difficult to acquire in other parts of the world.

Before heading to Nairobi, Kenya, JVC Architects collected school supplies from our colleagues, which we carried over and donated to Americashare, a non-profit organization. We want to extend our gratitude to everyone who generously donated items. And although we realize that not everyone can fly halfway around the world to help these underprivileged citizens, there are many more things we can do while remaining here in the U.S. One way to help is to donate money to Americashare so they can purchase products people dearly need. A young generation of Africans whose parents have been devastated by the HIV/AIDS pandemic have been left alone and are very vulnerable. It is the goal of AmericaShare to restore a better life to these children. To this end, AmericaShare is involved in a number of children’s projects in East Africa.

Besides items for daily use, many African natives are in need of proper shelter. Your donations can go a long way at Habitat for Humanity Intl. in ensuring families have decent refuge. And while I’m speaking to a group of talented architects, why not utilize your skill and creativity to design shelters or multi-purpose community buildings for the needy in Africa? Very few people need your help more. While we have available resources at our fingertips, we must also remember that among those resources is our ability to help those less fortunate than us, even those halfway around the world.

Please visit www.americashare.org and www.habitat.org to learn more about these organizations and how you can help.
MAKE DAYLIGHTING YOUR BUSINESS: NCARB’S DAYLIGHTING PERFORMANCE AND DESIGN MONOGRAPH OFFERS CES CREDITS

NCARB’s newest monograph, Daylighting Performance and Design, by Gregg D. Ander, AIA, explores the challenge of balancing the human preference for natural light with energy-efficient and sustainable design. Within 315 pages, it includes case studies that illustrate the various benefits of daylight in commercial, industrial, educational, and institutional settings. Daylighting examines five design fundamentals of daylighting: issues, variables, strategies, elements, and options. Subsequent chapters discuss occupant productivity and performance, glazing properties, and integration with electric lighting, and a section on design tools offers a comprehensive introduction to related computer programs and worksheets that can be applied to different design scenarios. Architects who successfully complete the Daylighting Performance and Design quiz will earn 12 HSW LUs.

Its price ($160 NCARB record holders / $250 regular price) includes the monograph, Web-based quiz, and score reporting process. Order online at NCARB’s Web site: http://www.ncarb.org/

AIA Las Vegas Career Center

Are potential employees forced to jump through hoops to find out that your firm is hiring?

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AIA Las Vegas provides an excellent service for applicants looking for jobs, as well as firms looking for employees.

The AIA Las Vegas Career Center is an on-line service that allows design professionals to announce their hiring needs to the local architectural community. People looking for a position in Las Vegas can easily search on the Career Center page of the AIA Las Vegas web site for these notices. Included in the cost of the ad is a link to your firm’s web site, where potential candidates can get more information or contact your firm directly. Also included is a business card size ad in one issue of AIA Las Vegas Forum Newsletter.

The current advertising rate is $250 for members and $300 for non-members per month.

Please contact Debi Raffi - AIA Las Vegas at draffi@aianevada.org or call 702.895.0936 to find out more.
UNLV SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

TOP TEN BOOKS IN THE ASL

All the books listed below have been checked out over 50 times each! (These do not include books that have been on library reserves for specific courses. The top ten of those that have been on reserve were checked out over 100 times each!)

1. Architectural Graphic Standards TH2031 .R35
2. Trace NA2780 .L62
4. Morphosis NA 737 .M72 M67
5. Fallingwater NA737 .W7K29
6. Antoine Predock, Architect NA737 .P67 A4
7. Portfolio Design NA2714 .L56
8. Marker Magic NA2726.3 M34

NEWSFEED ON ASL HOMEPAGE

The Architecture Studies Library now has a newsfeed on PLANetizen on the ASL homepage (http://www.library.unlv.edu/arch/). Its location in the upper right quadrant will hopefully make it a quick check whenever you access the site.

PLANetizen is a planning and urban development site. Explore at http://www.planetizen.com/
One interesting November entry was a list of PLANetizen's top ten planning books (http://www.planetizen.com/books/2007). The ASL and/or Lied Library have most of the titles listed; orders have been placed for any title not in the UNLV Libraries.

THE GREENING OF THE PROFESSION

Instructor: William McDonough, FAIA

This course is based upon a closing address at the AIA national convention in Los Angeles on June 10, 2006

The Washington Post recently told its readers that "no designer is more important to watch now" than William McDonough, FAIA, who for more than 20 years has prodded, pushed, proselytized, and pioneered in his attempts to integrate sustainable practices and materials into design. From a professional perspective, what The Washington Post suggested rings true. At no time have McDonough's message and methods been more important as architects debate their future and their role in shaping the public's quality of life.

Learning objectives:
- Review distinct and exciting approaches to "cradle to cradle" design that will eliminate waste and constantly create resources
- Explore new building and furnishing materials
- Using case studies, discover concepts for new and innovative design
- Become better leaders as architects

Member Price: $65.95
Non-Member Price: $89.95
LU Hours: 1.5
HSW: Yes
Prerequisite Courses: None

FORUM is an official publication of the Las Vegas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. It is provided monthly to AIA members, government officials, affiliated organizations and members of the Las Vegas architectural community.

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2007 GRASSROOTS CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON, DC

ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE
View the conference schedule and preconference workshop descriptions here. Do you like what you see? Then make sure to register online!

PRECONFERENCE WORKSHOPS
On Wednesday, February 7, get a head start on accessing valuable information resources by attending one of three pre-conference workshops:

AIA NATIONAL ORIENTATION FOR INSTITUTE LEADERS
Developing Board Excellence for All-Volunteer Component Leaders
Simplified Complexity: Staying Balanced in an Unbalanced World
Full workshop descriptions can be found on the Grassroots Web site.

GRASSROOTS IS GOING GREEN
In support of the AIA initiative to promote sustainability, conference binders and workshop handouts will not be printed. All materials will be posted on the Grassroots Web site, for participants to download.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

2007 AIA NATIONAL CONVENTION
THEME SPEAKER - DR. RAYMOND J. COLE

Ray Cole is a professor and director of the School of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of British Columbia. He has been teaching environmental issues in building design in the architecture program for the past 29 years. Dr. Cole heads the Environmental Research Group at the School of Architecture, the focus of environmentally related research within the school. He was cofounder of the Green Building Challenge, an international collaborative effort to benchmark progress in green building performance and environmental assessment, and he has served on numerous national and international committees related to buildings and the environment.

Dr. Cole was selected as a North American Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture Distinguished Professor for "sustained commitment to building environmental research and teaching" in 2001. In 2003 he received the Architectural Institute of British Columbia Barbara Dalrymple Memorial Award for Community Service and the U.S. Green Building Council's Green Public Service Leadership Award. He is currently a director member of the Canadian Green Building Council and the Canada Solar Buildings Research Network and he holds the UBC designation of Distinguished University Scholar.

For more information on Convention Speakers, please go to:
http://www.aiaconvention.com/live/61/events/61SAN07A/SN960233/CC494333

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January

24-27 WMR CACE Retreat
AIA Las Vegas will be hosting the Executive Directors from all the other chapters in the Western Mountain Region.

31 Membership Meeting
AIA150 and Creating a Livable Community
What is the AIA150 and why is it important to our community? AIA CEO Chris McEntee and/or 2007 AIA President, R.K. Stewart, FAIA have been invited to speak regarding this anniversary milestone and why it is important to architects.

February

7-11 Grassroots Leadership & Legislative Conference – Washington, DC

21 Membership Meeting - “The Architect as Legislator” – 2007 is a legislative year in Nevada. Bills are being drafted on the state and federal levels that impact how architects practice, as well as the future of the profession. Architects can no longer ignore the importance of taking an aggressive and assertive role in the political arena. (Special Guest Speaker TBD)

March

14 Membership Meeting
“The Future of AIA Las Vegas” - This meeting will be a special celebration and launch of the Strategic Plan for the Chapter. It will be held in an exciting (architectural) location, and will feature a special guest speaker. The specific plan for the Chapter will be presented to the members.