RIC LICATA, FAIA WORKING FOR NEVADA

AIA Nevada members are very fortunate. We have a true friend who is working on our behalf in Washington, DC. Our own, Ric Licata, FAIA, Senior WMR Director has developed very strong relationships in Washington DC with all our federal representatives and is working closely with Congresswoman Berkley and Senator Harry Reid as well as White House directors and advisors, to develop vertical infrastructure jobs in the design and construction industry in Nevada through renewable energy and transportation programs. He is a great advocate on behalf of the profession and AIA and is doing a tremendous job. Following is a report of his July 21-23 trip to Washington which I think you will find interesting and encouraging. Our thanks to Ric for continuing to work for Nevada architects.

In all day meetings at the White House on Friday I heard from a number of notable Directors and Advisors. In discussions with ROBERT FEE, from the White House Office of Public Engagement, we spoke of the current "coordinated front" the DOE has developed in approaching their mission. Mr. Fee, a former Special Assistant to the Deputy Chiefs of Staff at the Department of Energy, presented five focuses which make up the coordinated front. The five focuses are:

- Transportation-Electric vehicles and investment in battery technologies.
- Energy Efficiency-Weatherization and other "low hanging fruit."
- Renewable Energy-Solar, wind, geothermal and other energy technologies.
- Transmission-Smart Grid, smart meters, grid storage systems.
- ARPA-E-advanced research, innovative technologies, high risk high reward projects.

Financing and deployment are some of the challenges many projects face. The White House and departments like the DOE are exploring unique financing options like utility based financing and government loan programs through the department and EPA. One for the future challenges may be the public utility commissions (PUC) of the future. In a future utility climate where more focus will be on distributive generation and transmission and less on energy production the rules for oversight must change as well.

At the EPA Director of Special Projects and initiatives, LEANNE NURSE addressed financing opportunities through grants for Brownfield's and the American Water Works program. When partnered with community colleges and universities these grant programs can help address a community's needs while providing educational opportunities.

On Friday afternoon briefings were made by the White House Office of Public Engagement. Many notable White House advisors and assistant's to the President offered thoughts and ideas in making the White House services more available. MICHAEL STRAUTMANIS, Deputy Assistant to the President and Counselor for Strategic Engagement to the Senior Advisor, JON CARSON, Director of the Office of Public Engagement, and VALERIE B. JARRETT, Senior Advisor to President Barack Obama offered insights into the workings of the White House and access to programs and partnerships such as CS2-Strong Cities Strong Communities, and Building One America a program for rebuilding America's first-tier suburbs. 

On Saturday we had lunch with SENATOR REID between his debt ceiling meetings with the President. I asked Senator Reid what initiative will take place to allow the credit markets to thaw and free up financing for the many projects that are going unfunded? Senator Reid's answer to freeing up credit-a "grand bargain" type agreement to the debt ceiling negotiations will help free up credit and open up financial markets. Reid spoke to the plight of architects in Nevada and around the nation, and to the devastating effects this economy has had on firms and unemployment in the industry. He spoke to the developing jobs through infrastructure projects. It is clear there's are plans being set in motion, after the debt ceiling resolution that initiatives are going to be put in place to stimulate the construction economy through infrastructure projects.

In concluding my thoughts on these meetings I believe the next few months will be pivotal for the economy and architects. I believe there will be a push for "infrastructure" type projects. I strongly believe we, the AIA, needs to hone its definition and vision of 21st Century infrastructure projects. I believe we must point to the vision of vertical infrastructure, rebuilding communities, rebuilding schools, and transportation systems based on our ideals. The vision of infrastructure which is of the type that pays long term dividends and helps create lasting skilled jobs. And finally the type of 21st Infrastructure projects that raises the quality of life in our country for generations, and will provide a clean and prosperous future for our children and grandchildren.
CALL FOR ENTRIES AIA NEVADA EXCELLENCE IN DESIGN AWARDS

The 2011 AIA Nevada Excellence in Design Awards will be included as a part of the Western Mountain Region Conference which is being hosted by the AIA Las Vegas Chapter, October 5-8, 2011 in Las Vegas. The AIA Nevada Excellence in Design Awards recognizes projects of exceptional architectural distinction. Excellence in Design embraces the ecological, economic and social circumstances of a project, as well as the integration of the highest environmental and sustainable design standards with quality design execution.

Awards Timeline:
August 8, 2011 – Deadline for Entry Forms & Fees
August 22, 2011 – Submittals Due prior to 5PM
August 25, 2011 – Late Submittals Due prior to 5PM ($100 additional fee)
September 1, 2011 – Results of Jury
October 8, 2011 – AIA Nevada Design & Honor Awards Presentation Gala

Entry Fee: $200 per entry
Late Entry Fee: You may purchase a late entry fee for an additional $100 Fee.
Entry fees are non-refundable. No exceptions. Make checks/payments payable to AIA Nevada.
AIA NEVADA
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
SEAN COULTER, AIA

The summer time is a great time of year to leave the state to go exploring, to visit family and friends, to go on a vacation or just to relax away from home. The summer time for AIA is much the same way. We are in the middle of the dog days of summer resting up for what will be coming later this year, the Western Mountain Region Conference in Las Vegas. O.K., I haven’t done that much work to need the rest, but everyone down at AIA Las Vegas has, yes, that includes Debi Raffi and Rob Filary, AIA if you can believe it. Randy and Kelly are always on those two to get some work done! I’m sure you have already signed up for WMR as it will have some great speakers, seminars and tours; I haven’t yet, but that’s because I’m an architect…I procrastinate, not to mention, I have been “exploring” other cities this summer.

Get ready…this will be another story about my travels on the bike. I recently spent an extended weekend in Coronado, CA with the intention of getting some cool miles in on the bike in the middle of summer. The weather, as usual, was perfect for bike riding, though the traffic kinda stank as it always does in Southern California. I rode around San Diego bay and out to Point Loma, now a national landmark with awesome views to San Diego and the Pacific Ocean. As usual with multi-hour bike rides, I started thinking about how we “get around” in Nevada and our “urban condition.” We have a very unique state in that it is almost all high-desert with many very high mountain ranges breaking up the desert floor. We have some of the most remote areas in the United States and some of the most beautiful in the world.

Starting in the south, we have Lake Mead National Recreation Area, a huge man-made lake that has hundreds of miles of open desert shores. Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, Lake Tahoe, Lamoille Canyon and Great Basin National Park are just a few other preserved areas we have in Nevada. In between those wonderful places are miles and miles of natural untamed desert that, in some ways, acts as the negative space to positive space. Not to say the open desert is “negative;” to the contrary, the open desert gives credence to the pockets of wonder we have in our state.

I believe it is worth everyone’s time to travel the state to see what we have right here in our backyards. As I spend more time in the glow of my computer monitor and occupying “the built environment,” the more I want to see what is just outside my door. I know that architecture is important and can have a great impact on people; what I sometimes forget is the “why.” Leaving the city and spending time away from architecture, away from civilization, helps me understand the human condition, my human condition, without all of the static that can sometimes be generated in a populated area. Leaving the city also reminds me of how precious our land truly is when seen unspoiled by human intervention. In many ways, it makes me want to be a better architect. I only say this because I feel that getting away from what I do on an everyday basis helps reboot my view towards architecture, design and life.

Though we sometimes discuss what could be here in our state, we should step back sometimes and see what is. This state is very inspirational and could be the inspiration for something wonderful in architecture.

RECRUIT A NEW MEMBER – GET $50 CREDIT

Do you have friends, associates, co-workers or acquaintances who should be members of AIA? There are many people in the design and architecture community who could profit greatly by becoming members and receiving the benefits of membership. Maybe you know of some? If so, why not recruit them and earn $50 for every new member?

You can help them and yourself by encouraging them to join AIA. Simply have them complete the membership form (found online at www.aialasvegas.org) Write your name on the top and send it to the AIA office, 401 S. 4th Street, Suite 175, LV NV 89101 or via email to rlavigne@ianevada.org. You can use your $50 credit to pay for special events like the design award entry fees, design award gala tickets, golf tournament, seminars or special programs. It’s a great way to grow the Chapter and grow your bank account too!
OK, so I am not as young as I once was that is for sure but I did head out to the July YODANG gathering last week. It was to close not to go as the venue was a new restaurant/bar that was just a short 2 blocks away from the office. I went to April’s YODANG gathering and meet some nice and enthusiastic members and it was inspiring and need as much inspiration as I can in these challenging days.

Wan greeted us as she had landed a nice table on the outdoor patio and was sipping a glass of white wine and nibbling on a plate of appetizers. The table livened up when a couple (David 1 and David 2) of architectural students joined in and shared their joy and passion for architecture and told us what they are up to.

David 1 is leaving in a couple of weeks to finish his Architectural Education at the “New School” of Architecture at the University of San Diego. He knows that they are not going to take everyone of his transfer credits, but he wants to go forward with the next phase of his life education. Where better to start than in San Diego! Studying Architecture there would be tough with such a great town and climate tugging at you! David 1 was interesting as he said that he wants to be a business owner and practice architecture not as a livelihood, but as a passion. He talked about how he would like to live meagery for a few years, work part time, be creative with his student loads, and hopefully have a small grubstake to work in to a carwash or some other venture. Then have a few multiple locations and hopefully allowing him to have more freedom in what type of architecture he practices. It was neat to see a young person who has a plan on how he wants to work through college, and then hopefully not have to be the starving intern as they work themselves through college. He hoped to have an opportunity to expand his knowledge of Architecture and it’s affect on the human psyche by doing architectural research and have an insight what kind of spaces he wants to create, based on how the interaction of people and spaces.

David 2 is going the more traditional path and will finish his degree at the University of Las Vegas and understands that he will get a solid education, be able to use his state and local scholarship funds and will be able to experience Las Vegas and all of its wonders! He will be close to a support system of family and friends and knows a number of successful UNLV architectural graduates. He is looking forward to settling in to a new apartment, meeting new friends, and getting enlightened by stimulating architectural conversations by his new professors.

These are but two of many students who are leaving their comfort zone this fall and are going to complete their Architectural Education and I am amazed at their excitement and interest in architecture. It is great to listen to their plans and how they will be forever changed in the next 3 years as they more closer to their life dreams of being an architect. Now it is up to us already in the profession to make sure these soon to be architects have the best place to land once their graduate. As current firm owners, business and community leaders we need to stay involved in the process to make sure that our economy moves forward, get the word out that our kids need great schools, and our communities are great places to live, and great architecture can get us there!

After all that’s why most of us got in to the profession as well! Thank you Wan and YODANG for keeping the fire of architecture going in even the “old guys”!

THE DESIGN ALLIANCE DESIGN MATTERS CONFERENCE 2011

Two years ago, AIA Northern Nevada, along with the Black Rock Design Institute, helped form the Design Alliance, a loosely fitted consortium made up of most of the design professions in the Truckee Meadows. The group is made up of architects, planners, graphic designers, interior designers, landscape architects, photographers, artists — just to name a few.

Its main goal is to promote and advocate for design in all its forms on a regional platform and to become a larger voice in supporting community-wide design projects that enhance our quality of life in Northern Nevada.

To bring everyone closer to our mission, the Design Alliance has announced its first “Design Matters 2011” conference, to be held on October 20th, 2011, at the Nevada Museum of Art. The conference will include a keynote speaker, focusing on interdisciplinary design, a slide slam, and opening and closing receptions that will focus on bringing our design community closer to the common goal of design really does matter.

The backbone of the conference will be a juried design competition to create and produce a chair that meets a certain design criteria that will include functionality, sustainability, and creativity. Cash awards will be given to the first and second place winners, along with a Peoples’ Choice award for the most popular piece. All the chairs will then be offered for sale in a silent auction to conclude the evening.

Save the date Notices will be sent soon with more details and information. The event will be free to the public.

LIKE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

AIA Northern Nevada has created a facebook page which will help us communicate with our members and the community. Please take a moment to visit us by searching for American Institute of Architects Northern Nevada on Facebook and click “like” to keep up to date on all that is happening at AIAANN.
AIA Las Vegas has created a Product Show like no other – Providing Great Marketing Opportunities. Exhibitors will be able to make the most of these opportunities on Wednesday, September 21st at the Historic Fifth Street School.

2011 AIA Las Vegas

"LEARN ABOUT – TURN ABOUT"
PRODUCT SHOW
Sponsored by Modernfold of Nevada, LLC

Wednesday, September 21st
4PM to 7:00PM
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FOR ATTENDEES!

Product Show
40 Fabulous Exhibitors – Featuring the latest and greatest products, services and technology for the design and construction industry.

PLUS –
- Complimentary food & drink
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- Make new contacts
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- Door Prizes from the Exhibitors....
- AND we’re giving away $3,000 in CASH Prizes.

Attention All AIA Members
Bring your family, friends, associates and business acquaintances. Make the most of this great event. And who knows...You might even WIN big money!

FOR EXHIBITORS!

Product Show
Only 15 booths remaining! All Premium spaces $500 each = 8’ x 6’ space, pipe and drape, skirt and table and two chairs. If you require electricity (one outlet) you may purchase it for an additional $70.

And, For Exhibitors Only
A Great Additional Marketing Opportunity!

Turn About
Exhibitors can arrange to meet “face to face” with the Firm Principals and Key Decision makers during a special meeting session. Introduce yourself and your company/product/service – schedule a follow-up meeting, lunch or demonstration in their office. Network with the decision makers in design and construction. For Exhibitors only. What a Turn About!! Only $200 – limited to the first 30 to sign up. Maximum of two representatives from each exhibitor.


Vendors! Make the most of this opportunity to showcase your products and services. Reserve your space today by filling out the contract on the reverse side of this flyer and send in it AIA Las Vegas immediately! For more information contact Kelly Lavigne, Show Manager: klavigne@aianevada.org - 702.895.0936.
2011 AIA LAS VEGAS
“LEARN ABOUT TURN ABOUT” PRODUCT SHOW
REGISTRATION FORM

To Reserve Your Space(s) and Turn About meeting with Firm Principals
COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN TO
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(Please PRINT clearly and complete all)

PRODUCT SHOW  Be an Exhibitor

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Type of Business ____________________________ This is to keep you from being placed next to your competitor. "Manufacturer” or “Rep Company” isn’t specific enough.

Space Preference: 1st _______ 2nd _______ 3rd _______ Cost: $500 each (you may purchase more than one if preferred)
I require electricity (one outlet - for an additional $70) _______ Yes _______ No

TURN ABOUT  Have Lunch & Face Time With Key Decision Makers

Please provide tickets for the Turn About Product Show at $200 each for the following people:

Name of Participant ____________________________ Name of Participant ____________________________
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Once Registration Form is received by AIA Las Vegas,
Kelly will contact you to confirm your space number and payment will be required
within 14 days to reserve your space number. No cancellations after August 15th, 2011.
AIA LAS VEGAS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
ROB FILARY, AIA

It's that time of year again when the AIA makes it Call for Entries for the Nevada Excellence in Design Awards. This is an opportunity to take inventory of the projects you have accomplished in the past. It's a time to relish in the successful design merits of your work. Last month I touched upon our AIA membership survey, but I failed to mention that 23% felt that the Design Awards were ‘Not Important’, 56% felt they are ‘Somewhat Important’, and only 21% felt that they are ‘Very Important’. Honestly, I am surprised that 100% of our members do not feel that the Design Awards are extremely important to our profession. Admittedly, for me design is my true passion; therefore, perhaps my view of the Design Awards Program is slightly skewed. However, I believe it’s a valid perspective when you look at the overall vision of the AIA.

AIA Vision Statement
Through a culture of innovation, the American Institute of Architects empowers its members and inspires creation of a better built environment.

For me, the AIA Design Awards are a validation of all of our hard work and creative visions to create a better built environment. It's one way to measure your success amongst your peers and to be rewarded for your efforts... and for the low fee and sleepless nights! Even if your project is not selected as a winner, it's still a great opportunity to display your innovative work and to see what your competitors have been up to as well. The goal of the Design Awards Program is to honor the architects, clients, and consultants who work together to achieve design excellence. The Program seeks to encourage excellence and elevate the quality of architecture by recognizing works of distinction while bringing public attention to outstanding examples of architecture and design. Although I don't always agree with the jurors’ selections (especially when I don't win-- kidding), the Design Awards allow for a venue to specifically showcase our innovations as a profession. It's the one time that we are expected to live up to our perceptive egos and promote our design talents to our peers and the public.

When determining the value of the Design Awards, we need to remember that The American Institute of Architects was founded to “promote the artistic, scientific, and practical profession of its members; to facilitate their intercourse and good fellowship; to elevate the standing of the profession; and to combine the efforts of those engaged in the practice of Architecture, for the general advancement of the Art.” I truly believe the Design Awards Program fulfills this mission to advance our Art in order to raise public awareness of the value of architecture and its importance of good design. How powerful is that—the Design Awards provide an opportunity for architects to recognize projects which have made a positive aesthetic and social contribution to the built environment, an opportunity to honor our client's and consultants, and ultimately an opportunity inform the public of the breadth and value of architecture.

This year is even more special than most because AIA Las Vegas will be hosting both the Western Mountain Region Design Awards and Nevada Design Awards on the same night at Aria. The event is scheduled for Saturday, October 8th with the Nevada Awards ceremony beginning at 6pm, followed by a short intermission and the Western Mountain Region Awards. Up until August 31st, you can reserve a ticket to the Awards Gala for $125/person. After that date, the price goes up to $150/person. I understand the economic difficulties that we are all experiencing, the Design Awards Gala will be a spectacular event. Because I whole-heartedly believe in the importance of this Program, we made it a break-even event for the AIA in hopes that we can have a greater attendance for all to share in the wonderful work that is happening in our community and beyond. It’s a night to forget about the horrible economy, to enjoy in "good fellowship", and to celebrate each other’s talents! So, don't forget to submit your design projects and register for the Awards Gala.

2012 ELECTIONS & LEADERSHIP

For the 2012 election, there are two Director's positions that are open and five candidates have been nominated for these positions – they include ROCHELLE WALLIS, AIA (incumbent), GLEN CURRY, AIA, JUSTIN LAM, AIA, MARK RYAN, AIA and TINA WICHMAN, AIA. Candidate statements are included on the ballot that was sent to architect and associate members on July 15th. Ballots must be submitted by Monday, August 15th at 5:00PM. Please take a moment and cast you vote today!
Business From the Heart
by Craig Galati

Focusing on eight critical areas of management, Craig Galati, AIA unveils a dynamic new approach to business that emphasizes high-touch over high-tech.

Available at AIA Las Vegas for $24.95
Contact Kelly at klavigne@aianevada.org

2011 CONTINUING EDUCATION LUNCHEON SCHEDULE

Thursday, Aug. 18 – “Optimizing Sustainability with Operable All Glass Wall Systems” Hosted by Angela Williams of NanaWall. Registered for 1 LU HSW/SD

Thursday, Sept. 8 – “2009 Southern Nevada Building and Fire Codes” Hosted by Allyn Vaughan of JBA Consulting Engineers. Registered for 1 LU HSW

Please note: There is no charge to attend our CE classes. But if you RSVP and then fail to show up, there is a no show fee of $30.

INTERESTED IN SCHEDULING A CE PROGRAM IN 2011?
AIA Las Vegas continually seeks programs and educational opportunities to present to our membership so that they can achieve their required CE credits. As an AIA/CES "registered provider", AIA Las Vegas can partner with companies that are developing new technology, systems, products and services that impact the industry and whose research and development are of educational benefit to our members. If you would like more information on scheduling a CE Presentation through AIA Las Vegas, please contact Kelly Lavigne at 702.895.0936 or klavigne@aianevada.org.

MAKING THE CONNECTION
As part of the 2011 WMR conference, the EPYAF and Fellows Committees are hosting a private party at Insert Coin(s) Video Lounge and Game Bar.

For only $50 ($45 after August 31st) you will get to enjoy an open bar, classic arcade games, game station consoles, hosted game tournament and great food. This party is for everyone. Members and Non-Members and you do not need to be attending the conference to purchase a ticket! A truly entertaining experience designed to bring architects of all ages together for a delightful evening. Tickets can be purchased at www.aialasvegas.org.

The EPYAF is currently looking for Sponsors and Volunteers for this event. Please contact Craig Palacios, AIA at craig.palacios@selien.com for more information.

HEADS UP – NEW A.R.E. CLASSES STARTING
Attention Associates and Interns – AIA Las Vegas will be providing a new series of A.R.E. Classes taught by JEFF WAGNER, AIA, LEED AP, MCP, CDT. The series will have classes on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 6:00 – 8:00PM each night. The classes will be offered free to AIA members and $15 per class for non-members. RSVP required on the events calendar at www.aialasvegas.org.
The 2011 WMR Conference in Las Vegas investigates our regional connections while providing opportunities for you to explore some of the most interesting architectural sites in Las Vegas. Registrants can earn up to 15 AIA C.E. Lu’s / HSW credits by attending their choice of the regular conference sessions. AND, the sessions include trips to the Gehry-designed Lou Ruvo Cleveland Clinic with BRIAN ZAMORA, Senior Associate with GERRY PARTNERS, LLC – the Las Vegas Springs Preserve with PAT MULROY, General Manager of the SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER DISTRICT, who discusses our “water” connection in the region, the Red Rock Canyon Visitors Center with LES WALLACH, FAIA who will present “Site Responsive Architecture” in this beautiful location. Plus, keynote speakers, JEFF POTTER, FAIA – AIA 2012 President of the Institute, LAWRENCE SCARPA, FAIA, DR. ROBERT LANG from the BROOKINGS INSTITUTE and DAVID ZACH, Futurist, and much, much more.

You can also earn up to 5 additional AIA C.E. Lu’s by attending one of the three program/tours scheduled for Saturday, October 8th. These include – “Creating City Center” by William Smith, AIA, Project Director for MGM Hospitality; Symphony Park and the Smith Center presented by Scott Carter, Redevelopment Officer for the City of Las Vegas, and Myron Martin, CEO of the Smith Center, and the Hoover Dam and the new Mike O’Callahan – Pat Tillman Memorial Bridge. Please keep in mind that some sessions and tours have limited capacity so reserve your spot early and don’t miss out on attending. Register today online at www.aiolasvegas.org

Pre-Conference Workshop – Disaster Assistance: A Comprehensive Training
8 AIA CE Lu’s & HSW Credits
Earn even more AIA HSW Credits....AND....receive accreditation as a Building Evaluator in AIA Disaster Assistance by attending the special pre-conference workshop. This AIA Disaster Assistance Program provides leadership, advocacy and training to those who are interested in volunteering their skills in times of crisis. The workshop will teach participants to conduct rapid damage assessments of structures affected by earthquakes, wind and water, and will provide instruction on how to collaborate with emergency management officials. Register today online at www.aiolasvegas.org

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

The conference provides the perfect opportunity to maximize your visibility in the region and expand your marketing efforts. From Host Sponsor to Keynote Speakers to Host Chapter Party, Golf Tournament, Tours and the Design Gala – Numerous opportunities are available. Secure your sponsorship by calling 702.895.0936.

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AIA NORTHERN NEVADA EVENTS

AUG
11 Q3 Lunch Program Tamarack Junction
22 21st Annual Dennis Askew Memorial Golf Tournament
Montreux Golf and Country Club

SEPT
6 AIA NN Executive Board Meeting

AIA LAS VEGAS EVENTS

AUG
8 AIA NV Design Awards Entry Forms Due
16 AIA LV Board Meeting
10 WMR Jury Results
18 AIA NV Ex Com Meeting
22 AIA NV Design & Service Submittals Due
25 AIA NV Design LATE Submittals Due

SEPT
13 AIA LV Board Meeting
14 WMR Volunteers Meeting
15 AIA NV Ex Com Meeting
21 AIA LV Product Show