This year’s statewide Design Conference is specifically focused on “Nevada Designs” and explores the rich and diverse variety of work that is being accomplished by Nevada architects all over the world. This is a one-day conference that provides continuing education credits and a great chance to re-energize your creative talents. The conference schedule is:

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH

8:30AM – 11:30AM  “Creative Courage” Workshop, provided by Alex Raffi - Creative Courage is a workshop designed to demystify the idea of the individual and group creative process and discuss creativity as a necessary problem-solving skill.

11:45AM – 1:30PM  “Decades of Design” Lunch - and an exploration of the rich history of architecture and practice in Nevada over the last five decades with five of Nevada’s most successful architects.

1:45PM – 3:00PM  “Downtown Sketching Class” – bring your sketch pad and take a walk around the downtown to capture some of Las Vegas’ best structures

OR

“The Architect as Artist” – learn about the creative process directly from Nevada’s most prolific artists, who are also architects.

3:00PM to 4:45PM  “Nevada Designs – Local and International Projects” Presentations of current local and international projects by noted Nevada architects including:

* Jack Hawkins, AIA – Residential Excellence in Design in Northern Nevada
* Curt Carlson, AIA – Sharchitecture – the Zahid Corporate Center in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
* Chris Lujan, Assoc. AIA – Tate Snyder Kimsey Architects and their projects in China
* Tom Wurcherer, AIA – YWS International and their resort projects in Australia
* Paul Steelman, AIA – Steelman Partners International projects around the world.

6:00PM  “Excellence in Design & Distinguished Service Awards Reception” (at the World Market Center)

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW

Registration is $75.00 for AIA members
Non AIA Member Registration is $125.00
Registration for the Conference includes one ticket to the Design Awards Reception
Additional tickets to the Design Awards Reception are $40.00 each
To Purchase tickets for the Design Awards Reception Only – Click here
Tickets are Selling Fast!!

Register today and become part of the clean energy conversation! This year, Summit attendees will explore exhibitor booths, enjoy a 3 course sustainable meal, and listen to the top energy experts discuss the clean energy of tomorrow! Trust us - you don’t want to miss this event on Tuesday, August 13th at Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino in Las Vegas!

The National Clean Energy Summit has been the national stage for clean energy development discussions for six years and serves as the country’s most visible and influential gathering of leaders and top policymakers. The day-long clean energy summit is hosted by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV), the Center for American Progress, the Clean Energy Project, MGM Resorts International, and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

National Clean Energy Summit 6.0: Energizing Tomorrow will focus on empowering individuals, governments, and businesses to continue our transition to a clean energy future. This year’s conference will highlight solutions needed to energize our clean energy economy for tomorrow. By identifying hurdles facing clean energy development today and discussing the solutions needed to clear these hurdles, we can energize tomorrow.

Energizing Tomorrow will create a dynamic setting for a conversation on the solutions that will continue to move America’s fossil-fuel dependent electrical grid towards a 21st Century market for clean energy.

NCES Recent News...
Most architectural practices have out-of-town projects from time to time. Meeting new people, seeing new places and learning operations of all kinds of businesses are benefits of our work if you like that sort of thing. The architecture of security facilities is highly specialized and is serious business. Mistakes can cost lives or cause injury.

After the establishment of a city government around 1908, the City of Fallon began the process of building civic structures. One of these was a two story stone building on the corner of the main intersection at the time to be used for city offices. It featured two large windows facing the main road intersection in town. Over the years it served the purpose well but when it became evident that the town needed a city jail the building was converted to a jail. A well-used obsolete steel navy ship’s brig from the naval air station was craned in through the roof. That was far cheaper than a new jail building.

Like most city and county jails there were regulars who came and went by circumstances usually alcohol related. One of these was sentenced by the circuit judge to endure incarceration “until he sobered up”. The problem was he never sobered up. This was a mystery until it was discovered that he had hidden a number ten can in the firebox attached to the side of the old brig (apparently that is how brigs were heated then). With a little water, some raisins and couple of slices of bread he could make a sort of raisin brandy sufficiently powerful to flatten strong men. It made very good anti-freeze and paralyzed spiders.

Jails are truly democratic places. Everyone goes in the same box but maybe not at the same time. It happened that there were a couple of energetic ladies of the night serving a light sentence for inappropriate social activities. In the morning there seemed to be a number of accidents in the intersection. One car full of high school boys was seen rotating through the scene at regular intervals and they were not the only ones. An investigation was revealing.

For reasons known only to the jailhouse brig occupants, the ladies took turns clinging to the bars without any clothes on so they could be seen from the intersection through the large “picture” windows. To say that was a distraction is to understate the effect. The Sheriff was a modest man and struggled to find a solution to this shocking event. He and his deputy draped the windows on the outside and ended the fun but that was only a temporary fix. Something had to be done.

The City of Fallon was now reaching the stage of development that required a serious law enforcement facility. This event, and some other not so public reasons, finally gave the impetus to take a deep breath, find funding from the Law Enforcement Assistance Act (now defunct), and hire an out-of-town Architect for the project.
I've always loved documentaries; something about truth being stranger than fiction and the ability of the film makers to find such compelling subjects and people to follow. I recently watched three different documentaries that I would highly recommend: Undefeated, Indie Game: The Movie, and Beauty is Embarrassing.

Undefeated follows Bill Courtney, a dedicated volunteer coach, and his Manassas Tigers, a severely underfunded and underprivileged high school football team in inner-city Memphis, as they attempt to reach the school’s first-ever playoff game. Indie Game: The Movie is a documentary that follows several independent video game designers as they painstakingly develop their games and struggle to meet release deadlines and the expectations of waiting fans. Beauty is Embarrassing focuses on artist Wayne White, who is best known for his word paintings featuring pithy and sarcastic text statements finely integrated onto existing vintage landscape paintings. He was also one of the creators of the Pee-Wee’s Playhouse TV show and a cartoonist in New York City.

Although the movies cover wildly different subject matter, the common thread is the passion, love, and dedication that each individual has toward their craft and the sacrifices they must make to pursue it. Coach Courtney’s passion for football is surpassed only by his love for the players and the players’ well-being and future. Football provides needed structure for these boys and being part of a team forces these young men to think beyond themselves. The mentorship and guidance that Courtney provides has an enormous impact on the players, but his efforts to keep the team together exacts a huge emotional toll on the coach and his family.

The video games, Super Meat Boy and Fez, are passion projects for the two-man video game developers featured in Indie Game. The games are in production for over three years and every detail is obsessioned over. The developers compromise their relationships, their health, and their financial security to perfect these creations. The potential financial rewards for a successful video game seem almost secondary to having the fans connect to the game and really understand what the creator’s vision for the game is.

For Wayne White, it’s as if he is compelled to create his art and express his thoughts in the form of giant puppets, colorful sculptures, and eclectic paintings. The great highs and crushing lows of an artist are revealed as Wayne struggles to find peace and balance between his professional work and his personal art. This is even more complicated for a man who struggles with the things he most often mocks in his art: vanity, ego, and celebrity.

I would bet that a lot of architects and designers can relate in some way to the individuals featured in these documentaries. Professional work and personal art aren’t always compatible. Critical success and financial rewards aren’t guaranteed, and the longer a project lingers the less certain this becomes. Sacrifice, in the form of lost weekends, time spent away from families, and cancelled vacations, is common in the pursuit of perfecting the design and design documents. We labor over details that only a few may appreciate. And we both admire and disdain the vanity, ego, and celebrity of the “starchitect”. But again, love and passion are the common thread. It is what drives us and it is the foundation of our profession. It is what pushes us to integrate art, engineering, economics, politics, innovation, and tradition. It fuels our desire to learn and grow. And it will inspire others to follow and lead our profession into the future.
Team Contact:

Company: ______________________________________________________________________

Name: ______________________________________________________________________

Phone: ______________________________________________________________________

E-mail: ______________________________________________________________________

Roster:

Player 1 Name: ______________________________________________________________________

Player 2 Name: ______________________________________________________________________

Player 3 Name: ______________________________________________________________________

Player 4 Name: ______________________________________________________________________

Fees:

Individual Golfer: $200.00 ________  Thank you for your participation. Our scholarship and educational program participants appreciate your support.

Team of Four Golfers: $800.00 ________

Tee Sponsor Signs: $250.00 ________

Attend Lunch Only $40.00 ________

Return entry forms and payment to:
AIANN Golf Tournament, AIA Northern Nevada, 3495 Lakeside Drive, PMB 15, Reno, NV 89509
Make checks payable to: AIANN Golf Tournament

Or go online to entry form and credit card payment to: http://sendomatic.com/6ddaU

Tournament Contact: Max Hershenow Phone (775) 332-6640
The goal of this year’s event will be to empower the design community to promote a vision that will support an urban form that is rich in quality design, arts and culture and economically sustainable. With this year’s program we seek to increase the awareness of quality urban design and demonstrate its value. We will bring in speakers who will teach us how other communities have been successful in accomplishing the same goals. DICE continues to strive to provide a venue for multi-disciplinary design professionals and community advocates to engage in discussion.

Our speakers will include Dr. Chris Lubekemon who is a bridge builder of many kinds. He is a third generation educator who has formally educated as a geologist, structural engineer and architect who believes that successful design cannot be separated from breadth of knowledge and steadfast inquiry. Prior to joining Arup in 1999, he taught in the Departments of Architecture at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology [ETH] in Zurich, the University of Oregon, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology [MIT]. His industry funded research program at MIT, which continues today, is entitled “house_n: MIT’s intelligent home of the future”. This is a technology and tectonic exploration of the integration of the digital with the physical. He continues to utilize his broad interests and enthusiastic belief in his current position as Director for Global Foresight and Innovation at Arup. His experiences have enabled him to specialise in being a generalist with a view to being “in league with the future”.

Also speaking will be Greg Lindsay who is a journalist, urbanist, and speaker. He is a contributing writer for Fast Company and an author of the international bestseller Aerotropolis: The Way We’ll Live Next. Greg speaks frequently about globalization, innovation, and the future of cities. His work with Studio Gang Architects on the future of suburbia was displayed at MoMA in 2012. He is currently working with UCLA’s cityLAB to re-imagine the economy and urbanism of the Ecuadorian Amazon.

As with previous DICE conferences, there will be a design competition to showcase the creativity of local designers. This year’s competition will ask designers to explore what will make Reno a great city in the future. We ask our community to submit a 3 minute video or slideshow presentation that showcases their one big idea to make downtown Reno a more vibrant urban community. The top ten winners will get a chance to present their idea in a slide slam format at the DICE conference.

More information will be available by August. Please check http://designconferencenv.com/ for updates. We encourage participants in the design competition and we are currently looking for sponsors for this event. Contact wanlee.cone@gmail.com if you would like to be a sponsor.
I have been thinking about the value of architects. In 2011, during a fit of angst I posed the following questions on my blog (www.ericmroberts.com) and I want to start my message with these scenarios today:

What is the value of an architect? Here are three scenarios to consider:

If farmer John owns a farm in the middle of, say, Kansas. A tornado blew one of his hay barns down last summer and he wants to construct a similar structure in its place. It is a simple wood structure that he has experience building. When he is done constructing his barn it will be a two-story structure over 2000 square feet in size. He can’t really afford to pay for architectural services on a building that he has experience building since he was young enough to swing a hammer. His problem is further compounded by the fact that there are no architects within 100 miles of his farm. Still, state statute requires that he have an architect stamp his drawings.

Most people would say, leave farmer John alone and let him rebuild his hay barn. Most likely, no people or animals will be injured if he turns out to be a poor builder. Further, this isn’t a very big building anyway, it is just a 2000 square foot “shed.”

Let’s further the argument. Farmer John’s house also was destroyed in the tornado. He wants to rebuild his house as well. It is a simple 2 bedroom affair that is miles from any of his neighbors. He only needs about 1300 square feet to serve his family’s needs. He actually built the original house with his father when he was much younger. He is confident he can reconstruct the same building today. He doesn’t need building plans because he knows the building like the back of his hand. The State says he needs to have an architect stamp his plans. With all the destruction from last summer’s twister, he really can’t afford that extra expense. Is it fair or justifiable to require that he pay for the services of an architect that will come to his property from over 100 miles away to tell him what his house should look like and how it should be built.

Since we are already walking this path, let’s take it a step further: the small town closest to Farmer John had a number of buildings destroyed in the same storm. The first is a small mercantile shop that is a 4000 square foot wood-framed building. It serves as the town grocer and hardware store. The owner would like to “just rebuild it” as it was before the storm. His concerns are the same as farmer John’s concerns: why do I need an architect to draw my plans? I just want to hire a contractor to rebuild the building on the same site.

Should he be required to procure architectural services?

Further down the town’s main street sits the city basketball arena. It is, in fact, a “temporary” structure that has become a permanent fixture in the town. It is a fabric tent structure with plywood walls that houses all the indoor youth sports. As you can imagine, this building was also destroyed by the tornado. The owner says he can get a manufacturer from Kansas City to come out and replace the tent structure. He’ll get a contractor to build the foundations and slab and then build the walls around the base.

Should he be required to procure architectural services?

These were the questions that were rolling around in my head one night as I tried to make sense of a profession that seemed to be dwindling by the hour. Over two years later we are just starting to see the green shoots of growth in our profession. Still, I think I have evolved in my thinking about the value of an architect. I think my questions that night should have been less about the “product” we help produce and more about the “value” that we bring to our clients, friends and the farmer down the road.

As long as our profession and our services are viewed as a commodity we will never be valued as we should be valued. Our role as “trusted advisors” to our clients, our ability to solve complex problems and our ability to make order out of chaos are not a commodity! I believe that one of the main roles of the AIA as an organization is to educate the public on the role and value of an architect not only as a “creator of plans” but also as a problem solver that will make things easier. To that end, I am looking for input from our valuable and wise membership to help structure a plan or program to achieve this goal. Do you have ideas?
JOIN THE AIA LAS VEGAS COTE COMMITTEE

The AIA Las Vegas Committee on the Environment (COTE) is established by the Board of Directors as a resource for the Chapter and works to advance, disseminate, and advocate—-to the profession, the building industry, and the public—design practices that integrate built and natural systems and enhance both the design quality and environmental performance of the built environment.

COTE reflects the Chapter’s and the profession’s commitment to provide healthy and safe environments for people and is dedicated to preserving the earth’s capability of sustaining a shared high quality of life. The committee’s mission is to lead and coordinate the profession’s involvement in environmental and energy-related issues and to promote the role of the architect as a leader in preserving and protecting the planet and its living systems.

Now is your chance to get involved in your AIA Chapter – Volunteer with the COTE committee! Come join us August 12th at 4pm at the 5th Street School for snacks and discussion on the future of the sustainability of the built environment including planning for the next AIA+2030 class and what we can do to address energy related issues in our City. Let’s have a goal to get a Las Vegas project recognized as an AIA COTE Top Ten Green Projects for 2014. To RSVP click here.

AIA LAS VEGAS AUGUST URBAN SKETCHERS CRAWL

Quick! Think of a single good thing that has ever happened in a parking garage in a movie or TV show… stumped? Well, we have a great idea for a parking garage; join us for our August Sketch-Crawl at the top level of the East Parking garage of the Red Rock Station Resort/Casino. On Friday August 23rd at 8 a.m. we will gather to render our perspective on the valley we call home. At this elevated location above most of the Las Vegas valley we will be drawing the Las Vegas skyline. It promises to offer opportunities for some great work.

All you need is something to sketch on, a pen or pencil, some water to drink and some determination. Drawing experience and expertise are not prerequisites for our group. Plan on some fun conversation, good company and sunshine and join us for a great morning! You can find our group on facebook at facebook.com/pages/urban-sketchers-las-vegas. Some words to the wise before you venture out to join us this month: don’t forget water, sunscreen (and thanks to the smarts of Hartley Alexander) don’t forget something to sit on!

We hope to see you all there with us on the 23rd of August! No experience necessary!
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LEARN ABOUT / TURN ABOUT PRODUCT SHOW
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16TH, 2013 AT THE HISTORIC 5TH STREET SCHOOL

INFORMATION FOR ATTENDEES

Make your plans now to attend this year’s “LEARN ABOUT, TURN ABOUT” PRODUCT SHOW, featuring 40 Top Exhibitors providing the latest in products, services and technology for the design industry. The PRODUCT SHOW is open to EVERYONE in the Design Industry and the public as well. Be sure to come and bring all your friends and associates.

The Show Opens at 4PM on Wednesday, October 16th at the Historic Fifth Street School, Auditorium and Gallery. The show closes at 7:00pm. As always there will be plenty of food, drinks and FABULOUS PRIZES including $3,000 in CASH!! You could go home smarter and richer just by attending!

The “LEARN ABOUT” portion of the show provides Continuing Education Classes from 8:00AM to 3:45PM on Wednesday, October 16th in the Conference Room at the 5th Street School. Class Schedule includes the following:

8:00 - 9:00am  “Solutions for Large Openings” presented by Nanawall Systems, Inc. (1CE/HSW)
9:15-10:15am  “Daylighting 301 - Managing Daylighting with Automated Solar Control” presented by Draper, Inc. (1CE/HSW)
10:30 - 11:30am “Program TBA” presented by Nevada Lighting (at least 1CE)
11:30am - 1:30pm LUNCH BREAK (Lunch will NOT be provided)
1:30 - 2:30pm “Building Tile Installations Specs With ANSI & TCNA Standards” presented by Custom Building Products (1CE/HSW)
2:45 - 3:45pm “Program TBA” presented by Polar Shades (at least 1CE)

You must RSVP to attend the CE Classes. It is $50.00 for members and $75.00 for Non-members to attend all classes. (classes are not available individually) Limited to 30 attendees. Please visit www.ai alasvegas.org to RSVP.

The “TURN ABOUT” portion of the show allows exhibitors to meet face-to-face with the firm principals and key decision makers in the industry. Must be an exhibitor to participate!

ATTENTION POTENTIAL EXHIBITORS
ONLY 10 SPACES LEFT!

Once again this year, AIA Las Vegas is hosting a Product Show providing THREE great marketing opportunities for our Allied Members. Scheduled for Wed, October 16th at the Historic Fifth Street School, Exhibitors will want to secure booth space, schedule a C.E. class, and attend the “Turn About” lunch with the design decision makers. Here’s how to make the most of this triple opportunity!

One – Secure your booth space now, limited to the first 40 Exhibitors (only 10 remaining). All premium spaces - $600 each – 8’ x 6’ space, pipe & drape, skirting, identification sign, table and 2 chairs, PLUS advance promotions, your giveaways at the event, food & beverage stations and $3,000 in CASH prizes. Product Show from 4PM to 7PM.

Two – Offer a “Learn About” Experience - provide an AIA Registered Continuing Education Class. Only 5 class times available, quickly, secure yours today. $300 (Exhibitors Only)

Three – The “Turn About” – where firm principals and key decision-makers will be in the booths and you get “Face to Face” Time with each of them – 11:30AM – 1:30PM. Tell them about your product or service, schedule your next meeting or demonstration in their office...and have lunch! What a turn-about! $200 (Exhibitors Only)

Click here for complete information and registration
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Call us today and let us show you how we can handle all your insurance needs.
AIA Las Vegas continues to provide Continuing Education Luncheons without charge as a benefit of membership for members. However, as of January 1, 2013 there is a charge of $20.00 for non-members. All (including members) who wish to attend an AIA Continuing Education Luncheon MUST RSVP online prior to the meeting. For those who do not RSVP online as required (including members), and simply show up, there will be a charge of $40.00 payable at the door.

If you are interested in providing or hosting an AIA Las Vegas Continuing Education Lunch, click HERE for more information

2013 Continuing Education Opportunities are as follows:

**Thurs / Friday, September 20th** - Nevada Designs Conference

**Wednesday, October 16th** - AIA LV “Learn About” Product Show

**Thursday, November 14th** - Hosted by ARC Western. Program and Location TBA

**Thursday, December 12th** - Hosted by The Woodwork Institute. Program and Location TBA

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Architecture is the only element of our material culture that can simultaneously shelter, shape, and inspire us. Architecture transcends the physical and ordinary because it can empower and unite us. In spite of this, Architecture is more commonly underappreciated and devalued in the face of ostensibly more important demands. Too often, short term considerations outweigh the long term potential that Architecture promises.

Join AIA Wyoming in Jackson Hole with leading architects and critics to learn how we can all promote Architecture in its service to users, communities and our cultures at large. The practice of Architecture in a time of increasing global challenges yields nothing short of revolutionary possibilities.

CLICK HERE for more information on the 2013 AIA Western Mountain Region Conference
AIA EVENTS CALENDAR

AUG

1 Nevada Design Awards
   Entry Forms & Fees Due

8 Nevada Service Awards
   WMR Honor Awards
   WMR Design Awards
   Submittals Due

12 WMR Design Awards
   Late Submittals Due
   and
   AIA Northern Nevada
   23rd Annual Denny Askew Golf Tournament

12-16 Nevada Service Awards Jury
   WMR Honor Awards Jury

15 AIA Nevada Ex Com Meeting
   and
   Nevada Design Awards
   Submittals Due

19 Nevada Design Awards
   Late Submittals Due
   and
   Nevada Service Awards
   WMR Honor Awards
   Recipients Notified

20 AIA Las Vegas Board Meeting

22-26 Nevada Design Awards Jury

23 Urban Sketchers Crawl
   Red Rock Casino

26-29 WMR Design Awards Jury

30 WMR Design Awards
   Recipients Notified

SEPT

17 AIA Las Vegas Board Meeting

20 AIA Nevada Design Conference
   AIA Nevada Design Awards

26 AIA Nevada Ex Com Meeting

27 AIA Northern Nevada DICE '13