

OCCUUSM

NEW YORK CHAPTER / THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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ARCHITECTS' TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GROUP FORMED

One of the newest activities in the profession is The Architects' Technical Assistance Center (TATAC), an assemblage of volunteer architects and other building professionals who provide technical assistance to individuals and community groups who need but cannot afford to pay for service. The Center began last spring and is endorsed by the Chapter which gave it office space on the fourth floor and a small expense budget (See Executive Committee Actions June 17 and September 9, 1970), TATAC was run during the summer and early fall on a part-time volunteer basis by its five founders (Stanton Eckstut and Frank Rogers of the Urban Design Group; Walther Grunwald of Philip Johnson & John Burgee, Architects; Carolyn Hubbard Kamunanwire of the Human Resources Administration, and Eugenie Cowan of the Chapter staff.

As of November, the Center will elect officers, and Joshua Lawrence will be Executive Director under a grant from the New York Urban Coalition. Lawrence's background is in union-community liaison, he organized and administered the Harlem Tenants Union and Rent Strike, and has most recently been a consultant to Harlem Backstreet Youth and the Harlem Parents and Afro American Caravan Mobile Unit District 5 & 6.

The Center varies from most CDCs: It does not assume an advocacy role, and provides only technical assistance, not programming or fund-raising for community groups. It does not plan to employ architects (the Director screens individuals or groups seeking help to determine their lack of financial resources and their actual need for technical assistance, then matches the group with a volunteer architect. Its projects are short-term, ranging from a few hours' involvement such as a 7A inspection to a few months' as in some day care center preliminary assignments to help groups obtain seed money.

The Center has applied for its certificate as a not-for-profit corporation and its tax-exempt certification. Its Advisory Council includes the founders, Chapter liaisons David F. M. Todd and George Lewis, and community consultants.

At present some 20 projects are being undertaken,

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Preparing for the WAA's annual benefit are: (seated, L to R) Mrs. Rolland D. Thompson, Benefit Committee Chairman; Mrs. Saul Edelbaum, WAA Scholarship Chairman; CUNY Dean J. Marilyn Mikulsky, who will receive the WAA Award of Honor; and Mrs. R. Jackson Smith, WAA President. Standing are Carl J. Petrilli, AIA; Mrs. David Paul Helpert, WAA's publicity adviser; and Mrs. Morris Ketchum, Jr., one of the Auxiliary's founders and a member of the WAA Advisory Council. This year's scholarship grants will be awarded in Mrs. Ketchum's honor.

WAA BENEFIT AT CUNY

The WAA's Scholarship Fund Benefit is set for Nov. 18th at the City University Graduate Center, 33 W. 42nd St. from 5:00 to 8:30 P.M.

Members and friends of the WAA and NYCAIA will have the opportunity to tour the recently completed Center which Ada Louise Huxtable described as "an exemplary blend of economic considerations and good architectural judgement."

The goal of the event is to raise funds for the Chapter's scholarship programs. Rolland Thompson, Equal Opportunity Committee Chairman urges that Chapter members "Not forget that the future of our environment lies in the students we help today."

The tour of the 17 story structure which has been remodeled to accomodate the University Doctoral programs and research institutes will begin at the mall which extends through the block from 42nd street to 43rd street.

Twice during the evening the BBC film "The Smile of Reason" from the Civilisation series will be shown in the Center's Auditorium.

A reception will be held in the elegant penthouse "buffeteria" to introduce Dean J. Marilyn Mikulsky

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NEW YORK CHAPTER, THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
20 West 40th Street, New York, New York 10018 — 212-565-1866
George S. Lewis Executive Director

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Giorgio Cavaglieri, FAIA, President	David E. Glasser
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Leon Brand, Vice President	T. Merrill Prentice, Jr.
Thomas Galvin, Vice President	Armand P. Bartos
Der Scutt, Secretary	Howard H. Juster
Samuel M. Kurtz, Treasurer	James S. Rossant

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Kurt Karmin	John Doran, Editor and Chairman
Linda Yang	Joel Kaufman
Edward L. LaMura	Barry Stanley
	John B. Schwartzman

J. Arvid Klein

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS: Oct. 7, 1970

- Recommended to the Institute to approve Marcus Caines' and George Raymond's applications for membership (special action by the Institute's Board of Directors is required when applicants are not registered.)
- Urged commission and committee chairmen to complete development of committee budgets for final approval Nov. 4.
- Authorized Brunner Committee to make a \$10,000 award this year.
- Appointed William Tabler to represent the Chapter on the Midtown Development Council.
- Approved Vice President Brand's proposal that the Chapter establish a Committee on Computers in Architecture.
- Approved the Continuing Education Committee's request that the Chapter support a comprehensive program of study in specifications writing planned by the NYU School of Continuing Education.
- Expressed support of the studies being conducted by Lower Manhattan Development Office for a comprehensive zoning in the area better relating to pedestrians and mass transportation.

LATEST SCHOLARSHIP FUND FACTS

The Chapter's Scholarship money is spent on two groups of students; those who were NYCAIA-ARCH trainees, and those who receive Equal Opportunities scholarships as selected by the Scholarships Committee.

The ARCH program budget is \$39,936. The Chapter and the Ford Foundation each provide \$20,000. 13 young men are receiving assistance. There are 4 first year and 2 second year students attending the University of Michigan, 4 first year students at CCNY, one in his second year at Michigan, and one first year and one second year student at Howard University.

The 1970-71 Equal Opportunities Awards is budgeted at \$12,000. There are 30 students in this program, the average receiving \$400. There are 9 attending Columbia, 9 at Pratt, 10 at CCNY, one at Cooper Union, and one New York City girl going to the University of Cincinnati.

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The status of the fund is as follows:

Balance carried over	\$ 5,337.35
WAA Contribution	10,000.00
Chapter member and firms	9,595.00
Foundations (other than Ford)	2,300.00
Other (incl. anonymous)	840.00
Sale of Brighton Beach book	629.69
Interest	545.37
Chapter funds	5,000.00
Total	\$34,166.91
Ford Foundation matching grant	\$ 20,000.00

TATAC (Cont. from page 1)

with more than one volunteer involved in many cases; other projects have been completed. The demand for this service multiplies. More volunteers are needed. Please call 594-0259 if you can participate.

CHAPTER SUPPORTS PROPOSITION I

The NYCAIA has joined some 30 professional and civic organizations in urging support of Proposition I in the November 3rd election. A "yes" vote would ratify an Amendment to the Public Housing Law which was enacted during the 1970 session of the State Legislature.

WAA BENEFIT (Cont. from page 1)

and Chapter member Carl J. Petrilli architect for the project.

Dean Mikulsky, Coordinator for Campus Planning and Design, planned the interiors. She will receive the WAA Award of Honor for her "outstanding contribution to the enhancement of the Urban Environment."

Mrs. Rolland D. Thompson WAA Benefit Committee Chairman notes that: "Over its 12-year history, the WAA has raised \$100,000 for architectural scholarships. This money has gone to CCNY, Columbia, Cooper Union, Pratt, and, in ever-increasing amounts, to the Chapter's scholarship awards programs. As it turns out, our funds have been the backbone of the NYCAIA's ambitious educational projects and the basis of its successful requests for matching funds.

Please bear this in mind as you fill in your ticket requests and answer the personal appeals of our very dedicated Benefit Committee. You'll tour "a small environmental miracle", honor the exceptionally talented woman responsible for its completion, preview a thrilling and extraordinary film, and enjoy every moment.

More to the point: singly, or as a Donor, Patron, or Sponsor, you'll be guaranteeing that Tomorrow will be better, more liveable for us all."

COMMISSION ON INTERNAL AFFAIRS PLANS YEAR'S ACTIVITIES

Ideas being explored by the Commission on Internal Affairs, according to its Chairman, Howard Juster, reflect the interdisciplinary approach that the practice of architecture will continue to assume. Traditional lines will be crossed to integrate committees on Office Practice with Design, for example, to discuss various approaches to coordinating computer technology and systems design and how they relate to other areas, such as fees. A report on the workings of some of the committees comprising the Commission on Internal Affairs follows.

The Fees and Contracts Committee, chaired by Robert Gatje, at its first meeting, identified special areas of concern and subdivided itself into four subcommittees to investigate and report on those concerns: Liaison with Public Agencies, Liaison with the State, Document Preparation of Fee Construction Alternates to Percentage Method, and Prefabricated Systems. These subcommittees will report their activity at the next committee meeting, tentatively scheduled for November 17th.

The Meetings Committee, under the leadership of Henry Raemsch, arranged the successful Fall Opening Meeting of the NYCAIA at the New York Shakespeare Festival Public Theatre, formerly the Astor Library.

The Office Practice Committee, headed by Peter Hopf, meeting regularly, except for November, on the second Wednesday of each month at 12:30 at headquarters. The first meeting was organizational in nature and developed a program which includes, in part: Chapter presentation of the PSAE Automated Specification Writing System; practical input to the development, under national sponsorship, of a computerized cost accounting and bookkeeping system; investigation as to the possibility of forming a separate Chapter committee on insurance to study Errors and Omissions Insurance; applicability and appropriateness of updating and republishing the currently out-of-print 1966 Drafting Room Check List. In addition, the Committee welcomes any suggestions that may be developed regarding what could be done to reverse the slowdown currently affecting many offices in the City and its related problems. The Business Managers Subcommittee, under the leadership of Don Honigstock, will meet on November 4th, 3:00 at headquarters.

DPW COMMISSIONER REQUESTS MEETING

President Cavaglieri has received a letter from Alfred C. Maevis, Commissioner of the Department of Public Works, saying that the DPW "is eager to improve rapport between itself and members of the AIA." He suggests that periodic meetings between Chapter and DPW representatives "could result in better understanding of problems in each agency's respective area which, in turn, could result in improved contractual arrangements."

AUDITS BY COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE

It has been brought to the Executive Committee's attention that some members have been asked to have their books examined and audited by representatives of the Comptroller's Office before payments were to be made to them on City work. The following letter from Comptroller Beame to then President David F. M. Todd, dated May 5, 1970, explains his policy on the subject of audits.

"Dear Mr. Todd:

I have your letter of April 28, 1970, wherein you indicate that you had a meeting with Mr. Carroll and Mr. Prawzinsky of my office. At such meeting you received clarification relative to certain procedures of the Office of the Comptroller. You particularly mention that the Comptroller's representatives agreed that the audit procedure would not apply in the matter of the lump sum or fixed formula design type contracts. You requested that I communicate with you confirming the understanding between the representatives of the Comptroller and your representatives on this particular point. As you probably know, we have in existence fee curves for original design of buildings involving the Department of Public Works, Parks, the Board of Education. These fee curves have been drawn up by the Bureau of the Budget in cooperation with our office.

Payments by the Comptroller are made in accordance with the fees indicated on these curves without post audit of the books of architects and engineers. However, the Comptroller's Office always verifies the extent of the completion of the work provided under the contract.

It is my understanding that you will convey this information to your membership in order to clear any doubts they may have in their minds concerning this phase of the operation of the Controller's Office.

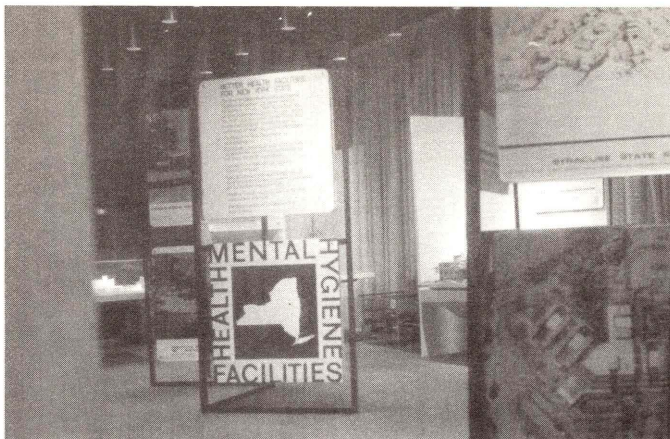
Sincerely,
Abraham D. Beame"
Comptroller

CHAPTER MEMBERS RECEIVE AWARDS AT JOINT REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Sixteen architectural firms, their clients and consultants were presented awards for design excellence by the NYS/AA as part of its 1970 Awards Program. The following Chapter members received Certificates of Merit:

Walter Rooney of Curtis & Davis; Armand Bartos; Max O. Urbahn FAIA; Frederick G. Frost FAIA; Arvin B. Shaw III of Carson, Lundin & Shaw.

Honorable Mentions awarded to: Holden Yang, Raemsch & Corser; DeSina & Pellegrino; Jordan L. Gruzen of Gruzen & Partners; Louis Gardner; Ulrich Franzen; Frederick Frost and Harold Einhorn. The presentations were made at the First Joint Regional Conference, Monticello, October 21st.



View of Mental Health and Hygiene Facilities Improvement Corp. exhibit at Chapter Headquarters. Exhibit opened Oct. 19th and will remain on display until mid-November.

POLICY CHANGES AT THE DPW

At the September 3rd Chapter meeting on working with City Agencies two of the major complaints were about fixed fees based on program budgets and lengthy reviews during which higher production costs reduce profit. It may be of interest to members that the Department of Public Works has made policy changes which affects both complaints.

As a step towards more equitable fees, the DPW will now make adjustments after approval of a consultant's preliminary cost estimate with a limit of 25% over the original contract fee.

To cut review time the Department has issued a three point memorandum to its staff on disciplines covering both construction cost and reviews. They are 1) Simplification in design features to reduce cost 2) Degree of checking plans and specifications 3) Expediting approval of Related Agencies.

DPW architects and engineers will expect consultants to keep designs simple and among other things "avoid extraneous breaks, indentations, overhangs, and all features of a tortuous nature just for design effect, including skylights." They also expect each consultant to be "totally responsible for the checking, crosschecking and coordination of all phases of his design documents." Staff checking shall be for program compliance and proper building systems. They are also to call attention to required related agency approval well before bidding.

Besides the obvious cost savings made by reducing time, the DPW expects that architects will produce better designs and a better set of documents. Delays result in personnel changes, lack of coordination, and poor morale. In 1938 the Department of Public Works began as a design agency.

Now the shift has been to consultants. At the initiation of the DPW two separate advisory committees of architects and engineers have been formed to work toward technical improvement of documents.



Joining Marcus Caines at the WAA luncheon are: left to right, Mrs. Stephen J. Kagel (Westchester Chairman), Mrs. John G. Foti (L. I. Chairman), Mrs. R. Jackson Smith (President), Mrs. Alan Schwartzman (1st V. P.), Caines, Mrs. Ralph E. Leff (N.Y.C. Chairman), and Jeanette S. Schlanger.

CAINES ADDRESSES WAA

Marcus Caines of the Equal Opportunities Committee demonstrated the techniques he uses to introduce minority community young people to architecture as a career and an environment at the WAA's semi-annual meeting and luncheon Oct. 8th. "Some of my best answers come from five year olds." Caines commented diplomatically. The projector and many of the slides used are a WAA contribution. George Lewis, Chapter Executive Director, also spoke to the gathering, reviewing how the WAA's \$10,000 donation has been used in the Chapter's scholarship programs.

SKETCHES

Ethical Standards: The New Standards of Ethical Practice which were tentatively approved by the delegates to the Convention in June were approved by the Institute Board of Directors in September. The Standards are effective November 1, and will be published and distributed shortly.

DATES TO REMEMBER

■ **Wed. Nov. 18** — WAA Tour & Wine Tasting at CUNY Graduate Studies Center, 33 West 42 Street, 5-8:30 P.M.

CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP

Information received by the Secretary of NYCAIA regarding the qualifications of candidates for membership will be considered confidential.

CORPORATE

Irena Victoria Bielski

Roger Medbury Lang

ASSOCIATE

Armand P. Avakian

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

The NYCAIA welcomes the following members:

CORPORATE

Todd Cunningham Bogatay
William Henry Brown
Joseph Francis Galea
Percival Harris
William Canice Meager, Jr.

Antonio Quiogue
Ralph Steinglass
Eugene Power Tubman
Bartholomew Voorsanger
Robert S. Wong