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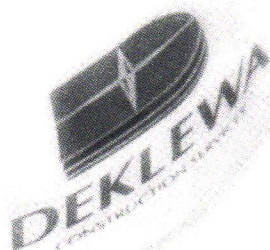
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Give a Little Bit by Tracy Certo



Maura hit the nail on the head when she said there aren't too many people with the vision and the creativity to get things done right in a community.

As often happens when writing articles,

I'm interviewing someone on one subject and they bring up another which grabs me. While talking about her role as a volunteer, Maura Guttman, AIA mentioned how much she had learned being on the Infrastructure Committee for the New Idea Factory. About raw sewage, for instance and how much is dumped in the rivers that no one knows about. And how it will take up to three billion dollars — yes, three billion — to rebuild the sewer system. As she talked, I thought, now there's a story.

The previous day I was talking to Henry Hanson, AIA about his role in CELP — Central European Linkages Project — and he told me about the transformation that occurs when people participate in community process for the first time. He mentioned the green space that occupies territory between three buildings in Prague and how complicated it was for all parties to collaborate to get things done right. But they did and in the process, they learned a great deal. Once again I thought, now there's a story.

The point is, there are plenty of stories out there about architects making a difference in our world. Maura hit the nail on the head when she said there aren't too many people with the vision and the creativity to get things done right in a community. But architects, who possess those very attributes in abundance, can do this and that's why we're focused on their efforts in this issue.

The article was something we had talked before 9/11; obviously, afterwards the whole idea of community work and helping your neighbors took on greater and deeper significance. It's worthwhile mentioning that none of the architects featured here called me. Instead, others told me about them and I made the calls.

A few years ago I was recruited to help a group of students interested in architecture at Lincoln Elementary School in Mt. Lebanon. It was for an innovative and hands-on program called Journeys that a savvy friend had started. The idea was to bring professionals into the classroom to help these kids learn from the best. My group, the Rikki Tikki Tacos (a takeoff of Rudyard Kipling), was a primitive island society that celebrated, well, everything: a birth, a

death, the rising of the sun, the setting of the sun. They mined gems for money and their most outstanding attribute was their happiness. These were joyful folk with dance platforms in the middle of parks and, in case of rain, dance halls.

Several architects, including Jim Kopriva, AIA and Art Ruprecht, AIA gave up their lunch hours for weeks to help these budding architects build a model of their island village. I don't know what impressed me more: the students with their enthusiasm and bright ideas or the busy architects who found the time to guide them. How much did the kids learn? Plenty. With limited resources they designed and built a model of society after much reflection on what the society needed for a comfortable (and very happy) existence.

In this issue, we honor those who contribute on a volunteer basis — to our local schools and community, our state and our country or another country. Their work makes a difference.

Where to start? If I could, allow me to start with the group who meet the first Friday of every month at the AIA offices for the communications committee. Here's where the ideas for Columns Magazine form and take shape. Without them, Columns Magazine wouldn't be what it is today. So from this thankful editor, I honor the following who give generously of their time and ideas: Bob Bailey, AIA, Alan Fishman, AIA, Eileen Kinney-Mallin, Prof. Affiliate, Dan Rothschild, AIA, David Vater, AIA and Donald Zeilman, AIA.

Not to mention all the other architects who volunteer for AIA committees and posts. We feature quite a few architects in this article to give a sample of what's going on out there, knowing full well there are many more who go unmentioned.

In writing this, I realized how day after day, I had one nice conversation with an architect after another. Of course. Those who are generous with their time and energy are really nice people, as Ed Meinert, AIA said to me. I find them inspiring. I hope you do, too.

Email Tracy Certo at tcerto@adelphia.net.

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On the cover: Children learn early about community process in the Czech Republic as they participate in decisions and designs for shared green space. Photo by Henry Hanson.

AIA Pittsburgh serves 12 Western Pennsylvania counties as the local component of the American Institute of Architects and AIA Pennsylvania. The objective of AIA Pittsburgh is to improve, for society, the quality of the built environment by further raising the standards of architectural education, training and practice; fostering design excellence; and promoting the value of architectural services to the public. AIA membership is open to all registered architects, architectural interns, and a limited number of professionals in supporting fields.

AIA Pittsburgh
211 Ninth Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Telephone: 412/471-9548
FAX: 412/471-9501

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A New Angle and New Excitement

by Anne J. Swager, Hon. AIA

I come by my volunteer career honestly.

It is in my genes. My mother spent many years totally involved in church activities and my dad was the "civil defense" coordinator for our town. He took it very seriously, eventually serving on town council and proposing a bomb shelter that would also double as a community center under the village green. At the time, this all seemed like a good idea to me, but then I was busy crouching under my school desk whenever the town's sirens blared signifying a possible nuclear attack. My dad was successful in getting a bond issue passed to fund the proposed village green desecration but an ensuing court battle which pitted neighbor against neighbor overturned the vote. In retrospect, the town made a good decision even if the process was quite painful, as my own family's silence on the issue certainly indicates. Given all this, you might think my father retired to the sidelines to lick his wounds and sulk. That did not happen. After several terms on the town council, he retired to serve on the volunteer ambulance service.

Now safely ensconced in rural Maine, both my mother and father remain totally involved in the church, library, and local land conservation group to name just a few. Again not content to sideline quarterback, they are more often in leadership positions although they both leave the politicking to others.

I have to confess that my first volunteer job in Mt. Lebanon grew out of my conviction that I had to get out of the house. As adorable as Betsy (now age 22) was as a child, staying at home was not my forte. While Betsy may not have realized it at the time, the beginning of my volunteer career lead to much better mothering from me and the introduction of Rita, our ageless babysitter. Rita still loves nothing better than to get down on the floor and play cards, pickup sticks, Candyland and every other game that I detest. Meanwhile I happily and innocently jumped into revitalizing the central business district of Mt. Lebanon. My

college major in economics and my background in banking proved perfect for the task of understanding revitalization strategies. However, when it came to the politics of convincing everyone to go along with your ideas and how to actually get things done I had a lot to learn and I am still learning. That first volunteer position turned into a job, but my involvement didn't end when I left the job bloodied, bruised and somewhat wiser five years later. I am still there.

With a full time job, a husband, children and pets, why continue? I certainly don't need another night out a week. I have found that there are lots of reasons to sign on the dotted line. First and foremost are the people you meet. Volunteers are optimists, forward thinkers, and interesting. Volunteers are committed to what they are doing. Meeting goals with a group of committed doers is always a satisfying feeling. You get to learn in the most effective way possible. Doing always beats just listening. Finally, believe it or not, volunteering reduces my sense of job burnout. Even my life can feel pretty routine and boring, especially when I have lots to do. Volunteering always brings a new angle and a new excitement.

Besides the obvious pluses volunteering brings to your own life, it can also greatly help your profession. Like any other profession, architecture and architects are subject to a number of preconceived notions. I have watched those notions get smashed over and over again from my perch on the Mt. Lebanon Planning Board. Letting people see you in action is a tremendous way to underscore the problem solving capacity of architects.

Volunteering is a great energy force. While it takes time, energy and commitment to volunteer, in return you get a grand opportunity to learn. Learning is a great fuel and for me the reason to keep saying yes to the next volunteer opportunity.



Volunteering is a great energy force. While it takes time, energy and commitment to volunteer, in return you get a grand opportunity to learn.



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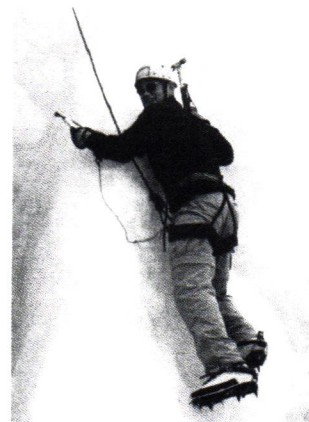
Welcome New, Adventurous and Globe-Trotting Members

(We suggest you two meet.)

AIA PITTSBURGH WELCOMES:

Scott G. Myatich, Assoc. AIA of JSA Architects, Inc. The Miami University of Ohio grad is shown here scaling the icy Swiss Alps during a European trip through the school's Honor program to study architecture. Scott's goal is to become a practicing architect with an ecological design/build philosophy. Hobbies include furniture design and construction, lacrosse, and, as you can see, the outdoors. In addition to scaling mountains, Scott also loves to camp, hike and ski.

Jeffrey Leon, Assoc. AIA of Strada Architecture L.L.C. A graduate of Carnegie Mellon University ('01), Jeffrey's goals are to gain diversified experience before licensure and to focus on good design and greener solutions. Past projects include residential work, home renovations, community planning and prototypes for a bank, restaurant/bar, corporate interior and stadium. Interests include organized sports, athletics and outdoor pursuits as well as social events such as happy hours and activities with his alma mater (specifically his fraternity). From Boston, MA, Jeffrey served one year as the AIA's national director for the Northeast Quadrant. Currently he is the president of his fraternity chapter alumni corporation. He has studied in Italy twice.



Myatich

Upcoming Issues

*Columns welcomes your
ideas and suggestions*

March

- The Business of Architecture:
Marketing Your Firm
- Security by Design: The Local Angle

April

- The Business of Architecture
- The Challenge of Designing Overseas

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Architects Giving Back:

Volunteers Making a Difference By Tracy Certo

“If you were to make a better world, how would you do it?”

That's the question Robert Macosky posed to his philosophy students every year. Not only did he ask the question but the Slippery Rock professor charged the students to do it. Then one day he took it upon himself to explore an idea. It took years, 15 to be exact, but the result of his quest is SRU's Master of Science's sustainable systems degree, the first in the country.

Bob Kobet, AIA, was an architect practicing in Butler, PA, when Mackosky approached him to help. Kobet says he bought into the concept and he, along with a group of about a dozen others, invested the next 15 years helping to create the program. “As an architect,” he paraphrased, “how would you make a better world?”



Mackosky Center at Slippery Rock University, home of the first Masters of Science's Sustainable Systems Degree. Philosophy Professor Robert Mackosky recruited Bob Kobet, AIA along with a group of others as volunteers in a 15 year project to give birth to the innovative program.

Many area architects volunteer their time, services and expertise for just that reason: to make the world a better place. Whether it's on planning boards or design commissions, for the Pittsburgh Symphony or the Community Design Center, their work is making a difference.

Bob Kobet developed the Harmony Homestead, an 84-acre homestead that was remodeled using sustainable design principles and now serves as the nucleus of the master's program at Slippery Rock. “It was an enormous effort, extremely time-consuming and it took a decade and a half to make it happen,” says Kobet of the program he helped to create.

Ironically, Kobet has the master's degree from the school which he paid for. “I have the dubious distinction of taking the degree from myself,” he says. He taught at the Slippery Rock program for four years before going to Carnegie Mellon University where he teaches today. His gratification results from the fact that the graduates of the program “are making a difference and impacting Pittsburgh,” he says. On a sad note, he adds that the influential professor Macosky died two months before the program was accredited in 1994.

Kobet, on his own now with his firm Sustainaissance, also serves on the AIA National Committee on the Environment and the U.S. Green Building Council's Education Committee to further his agenda of sustainable design. Among the other boards he serves on is the Construction Junction board along with board president Deborah Elliott of

“Generally, we possess a skill set not found among other professionals. We are uniquely able to hear many sides of an issue, distill from that what the real problem is and offer multiple creative solutions.”



Bob Kobet, AIA, left, holds up the support for the terrace shading device at CCI. Rita Stewart, right, along with her husband Dale Stewart, ASLA, helped with the design and construction of the shading device. Also pictured is Dave Defide, CCI's business manager.

makato, architecture and design. The mission of the organization is conservation through reuse of building materials.

"I think there is inherent value in a lot of building materials and related items that are thrown away," says Elliott who was involved in the planning of Construction Junction and has been board president since its conception a few years ago. Like many of the architects interviewed, Elliott is active in other areas as well: she is in her seventh year on the Planning commission in Pine Twp. and is a member of two design committees on the Southside, including the Southside Local Development Company. In the future, Elliott says she looks forward to branching out in her volunteer work to work with animals, another passion.

Maura Guttman, AIA, a strong proponent of improving the community, is very active in Mt. Lebanon where she recently ran for commissioner. Although she was defeated in that race, she feels strongly that architects should take a leadership role in the community. "Architects are really well suited to serve as public officials. Generally, we possess a skill set not found among other professionals. We are uniquely able to hear many sides of an issue, distill from that what the real problem is and offer multiple creative solutions. It's this creative problem-solving ability that is so sorely missing in every level of government...and we can help! In fact, we should feel obligated to help."

Through her leadership in AIA Pennsylvania, Guttman helped to add design professionals to the proposed Good Samaritan bill which was originally for engineers only. The bill, recently signed by Governor Schweiker, gives immunity to engineers and, thanks to her efforts, design professionals who volunteer services.

In addition, Guttman worked along with chair Anne Swager, Hon. AIA, on the infrastructure committee for the New Idea Factory and she helped draft the comprehensive plan for Mt. Lebanon last year. "No one else can do what we do," says Guttman who believes there are not a lot of people who have the vision and know how to see that things are done right within the community. "To do it the best way, that takes more creative thinking," she says.

Mack Godfrey, Prof. Affiliate, agrees. An engineer at Columbia Gas, he works with architects in his role as a board member of the AIA. "Architects bring a skills set to the



PHOTO BY RIC EVANS

Maura Guttman, left, served on the New Idea Factory committee for Physical Infrastructure which was chaired by AIA Executive Director Anne Swager (right). Also on the committee but not in the photo were Jon Shimm, AIA and Eve Picker. Michael Linn, center, of Mt. Lebanon was another committee member. This photo recently ran in Mt. Lebanon Magazine for an article on residents making a mark in county government.



***The art of community process at Central European Links Project (CELP)
“The focus is on design build projects using community process to generate ideas and support to implement design,” says Henry Hanson, AIA who travels to the Czech Republic four times a year.***

table that you don't find in an average person,” he says. By training, an architect will ask how's this going to play 20 years from now and how does this serve the community as a whole, he adds. “We all have blinders on but architects are trained to see the concrete as well as the bigger picture.”

When the Southwestern PA Design Commission was formed to select an architect for the convention center, Alan Weiskopf, AIA, principal of Perfido Weiskopf, was asked to join. “That in itself was a compelling reason,” he said, not to mention the chance “to contribute to a process that was so firmly grounded in achieving an exemplary product, as measured in all aspects of building design and performance.” The invitation came from Eloise Hirsch, former director of City Planning. Ultimately the process evolved into a formal design competition with the support of the local foundation community.

“No one else can do what we do.”

He was one of seven members on the design commission's RFQ committee which was made up of diverse people of different occupations. There were many meetings and “probably a couple hundred hours of time devoted to the selection process but there was a phenomenal level of energy and cooperation among everyone who participated,” Weiskopf offers. The result? It was done the way



This courtyard in Prague, a shared space for surrounding buildings, is a result of community process learned through the Central European Links Project (CELP).

it should have been done, he notes, adding that WQED produced a video about the design competition process.

In another volunteer endeavor, Weiskopf chaired the housing committee of the Pittsburgh Downtown Plan which addressed issues of architectural interest such as parking and types and locations of housing.

Henry Hanson, AIA of Hanson Design was recruited (by Bob Kobet) to serve on the advisory board of the Central European Linkages Program, otherwise known as CELP. Hanson's work is with community-based organizations on green space projects in the Czech Republic. “The focus is on design build projects using community process to generate ideas and support to implement design,” says Hanson who travels to the Czech Republic four times a year. (CELP is funded by the Heinz Endowments.) A recent project involved a courtyard and green space located between three large buildings in Prague. Three different groups of people collaborated and cooperated, despite multiple issues of conflict, to design the space, Hanson explains.

“It demonstrates that community process is a viable alternative, engaging residents in defining the future vision for the community,” says Hanson who adds, “I love it. I can't get enough of it. Community Process is something I believe in very firmly with all my heart and it's a real pleasure to introduce the concept to people who are unfamiliar with



Alan Weiskopf, AIA, principal of Perfido Weiskopf, chaired the housing committee of the Pittsburgh Downtown Plan and served on the Southwestern PA Design Commission to select an architect for the convention center.

it. When they begin to participate, to really engage, they become very excited about it. They see it as a different way to relate to the community than they did in the past."

To further the process, Hanson, who is working with another Pittsburgh landscape architect, Jim Pashek, ASLA, is helping University faculty and students studying landscape architecture prepare to support community process projects.

Paul Tellers, AIA is active in volunteer work, all related to architecture. (Someday, he says in an aside, I ought to do volunteer work not related to my profession.) In the meantime, his activities are well rounded. As university architect at Carnegie Mellon University, his work as chair of the Oakland Task Force can be viewed in part as an extension of his job in forging community relations. If that's the work side of things, on the home front he's also chair of the planning board in his own community of Mt. Lebanon. Beyond work and home, he takes on another role as chair of the design review committee of the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh where he works with urban neighborhoods.

Teller's professional volunteering goes back to 1974 when, six months after college graduation, he served in the Peace Corps for two years as an architect for the government of Malawi's Ministry of Works. "It's a good learning opportunity," says Tellers of his volunteering. "It's the chance to work with bright capable people of a similar mind set, get something done, and in the process, learn a lot."

AIA Pittsburgh's executive director Anne Swager has worked with Tellers in her eight years serving on the planning commission of Mt. Lebanon. "It's really good training ground for how public policy really shakes out in the built environment," she comments. Fascinated by organizational psychology, Swager says it's been a way to see

"how the world works, how decisions get made and how things get done."

In addition, Swager co-chaired the Infrastructure Committee of the New Idea Factory and she serves on the Riverlife Task Force as well as helping out extensively with Leadership Pittsburgh. Although she enjoys it all, she says her work in Leadership Pittsburgh is a labor of love. "It's a fun thing to do and I've been able to spread the word on why good design counts," she says.

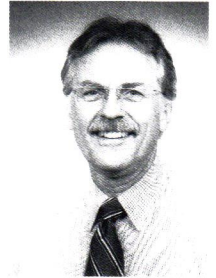
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John Cleary, AIA of MacLachlan, Cornelius & Filoni, Inc. finds benefits in helping to improve his church community. Cleary meets several times a month as a member of the church building committee for renovations and additions to Berkeley Hills Lutheran Church in Ross Twp.

His expertise is valuable to the committee since they put together an RFP for architect firms to bid on the schematic design phase of the project. In the process they narrowed the list to three firms and now they're interviewing firms.

Roger Hartung, AIA, project manager at IKM, serves on the park board of Upper St. Clair advising commissioners about construction projects such as the Environmental Education Center of Boyce Mayview Park which is in the design stage. Good work but his real passion is in another area: being a den leader of his son's Cub Scout troop. "It's more work than I realized but scouting was such an important part of my life when I was kid. There were things I learned in scouting that I still apply to management skills in our office today," Hartung says.

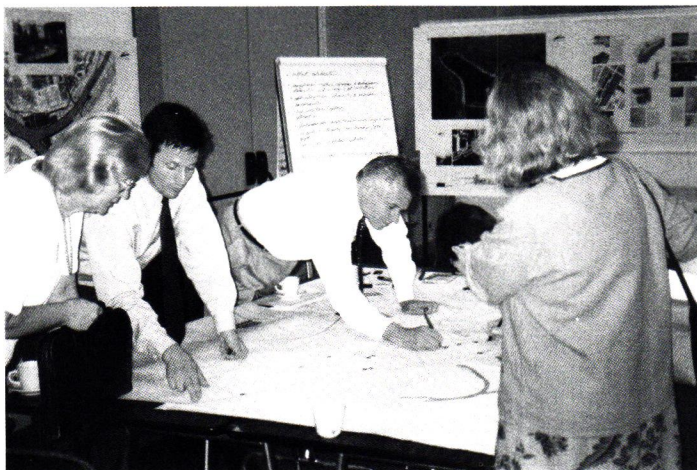
Doug Shuck, AIA of WTW Architects also serves Upper St. Clair — on the planning commission, along with the design and construction committee for the Environmental Education Center. Shuck is also assisting the Bethel Park Historical Society in the School House Arts renovation and restoration.



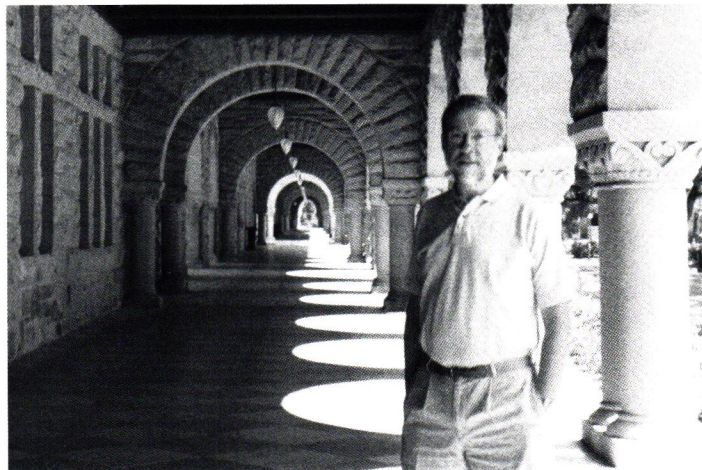
Doug Shuck of WTW Architects is not only active in his community of Upper St. Clair but he also helps with the renovation of the School House of Bethel Park.



Paul Zippel, WTW architect organizes many volunteers each year for the Christmas in April project.



Steve Quick, AIA of Perkins Eastman (center) goes to work for the Riverlife Task Force.



Carnegie Mellon University architect and active volunteer Paul Tellers, shown here at Stanford University.

PHOTO BY ALICE TELLERS

Paul Zippel AIA, revs up every spring as the WTW architect organizes the many Christmas in April volunteers who show up for a full day of house painting, yard work and general sprucing up of area homes in need of care. Typically they are homes of elderly or invalids, Zippel says, and the idea is to keep the homeowners independent longer.

On the last Saturday in April, 18 houses throughout the Pittsburgh area are fixed up thanks to the Rotary Club of Pittsburgh and the 20 to 30 volunteers who work at each house. Sponsored by contractors, \$2000 is allotted for each house in materials. The rest is sweat equity.

Two house captains organize the day's activities, one for the heavy work trades and another for the volunteers who tend to the painting and yard work and such. Zippel, who also serves on the Republican Committee of Allegheny County, has been working the event the past six years. Zippel says, "It's about the spirit of putting something back in the community. To me it's not any different than church for spiritual fulfillment helping others."

"When they begin to participate, to really engage in community process, they become very excited about it. They see it as a different way to relate to the community than they did in the past."

"You meet some really nice people in these service groups," says Edward Meinert, AIA, who has spent twenty years or so volunteering in his community. "Some are quite wealthy and others don't have much money at all but we all have the same goals and participate together."

Meinert has spent time as the chairman for the planning commission of McCandless, on the board of the Chamber of Commerce and in the Rotary Club of McCandless. Through the Rotary, he spent two days painting a house in Etna during the Christmas in April project.

In a related architect profession, Hal Hilbish, IALD is a lighting designer architect who has donated time and talent to the Riverlife Task Force's bridgelighting demonstration. His firm, Maguire Hilbish, had done studies on the bridges in 1987. "It's really something I wanted to do for

years and I'm thrilled to be involved with it," says Hilbish who estimates a value of \$14,000 for the pro bono work on lighting design for the Sixth St. Bridge. "It's one big composition, our bridges and our rivers," he says of the lighting project. "It will be fabulous," he promises.



Ed Meinert, AIA, seated, at work in the Chamber of Commerce's "Meet and Eat in the Park" event to raise money for student scholarships.



Michael Kuchera of Bohlin Cywinski Jackson recruits children's ideas for the Riverlife Task Force.

Finally, there are architects like Sylvester Damianos, FAIA and Dennis Astorino, AIA who have been recently honored for a lifetime of volunteer contributions to the profession. They were both recently mentioned in *Columns* for prestigious awards. And there are more, many more, including the architects who serve on the various boards and committees of AIA, all of whom are improving the profession.

Not to mention the free advice architects tend to dole out. Does that count, too?

"If I had a nickel for all the free consulting I do over the phone we'd both be wealthy," Bob Kobet says with a laugh. "A lot of us do this — we volunteer our expertise. We give away so much free time and so much free advice." Yet another way to make a better world.

Peter Greer, AIA (member of the WVA Society of Architects) and resident of Wheeling, is motivated to volunteer by his love of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. The DRS architect is a member of the New Leadership Board of the orchestra which helps with activities to promote audience development — from money-raising activities like golf outings to outreach programs such as Unlocking the Classics (which was presented to DRS as well as companies such as Alcoa).

Greer, who is enjoying his third year on the board, mentions that the 50-member board is always looking for new people. True to his mission, he takes the opportunity to promote the group. "You don't have to be musical to enjoy the symphony. They're an extraordinary ensemble," he enthuses, adding convincing evidence: "It's the only American orchestra broadcast live when they perform in Britain."

Greg Madej, AIA, also a DRS architect, believes in the idea of making college education available to anyone in the county. That's why he has spent two terms as a board member for the Community College of Allegheny County and just finished on the CCAC foundation board after six years. Madej, who finds the work fulfilling, uses his management skills more than anything in the quest to raise money for the college.



PHOTO BY KATHRYN JOLLEY

Together at the DRS office are architects (right) Peter Greer, AIA who helps raise awareness and funds for the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and Greg Madej, AIA who serves the Community College of Allegheny County.

I Get By With a Little Help from My (Architectural) Friends: *A.R.E. Prep Course Series*

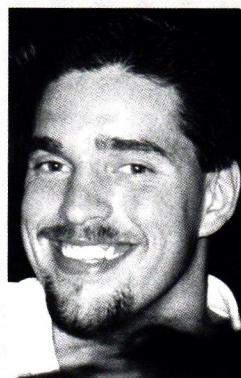
By Joe Touvell, Assoc. AIA • Director, PIYAF • Rothschild Architects PC

Q: *Where does an intern architect turn for help in preparing for the A.R.E.?*

A: *The Architectural Registration Exam (A.R.E.) Preparatory Course Series, sponsored by PIYAF. The seminars, held twice a month, are a hit due to intern participation and the efforts of guest presenters who volunteer their expertise, time and energy. Presenters include architects and engineers throughout the City of Pittsburgh.*

Prior to the start of this new A.R.E. Prep Course Series, AIA members hosted previous architectural review sessions that dealt with the infamous four-day, handwritten exam. In 1997 the exam format was changed from the grueling charette format that took place in a studio environment to the new computerized format. The former test was scheduled once a year while the new format allows interns to schedule whenever they feel comfortable. While most interns prefer the new format, others think it promotes procrastination.

During this transition period, AIA Pittsburgh was in the midst of creating a new subcommittee known as the Pittsburgh Interns and Young Architects Forum. The PIYAF subcommittee was asked to accept the responsibility of hosting the A.R.E. review sessions and did so with enthusiasm. Unfortunately, until the start of this new series, PIYAF was unable to find a Director for the Prep Course Series. As the former Director of the AIA Architects Resource Center in Central New York, and a participant of A.R.E. review sessions in New York, Baltimore, and Philadelphia, I was recruited and I am very excited to provide leadership for this venture here in Pittsburgh.



Joe Touvell, Assoc. AIA

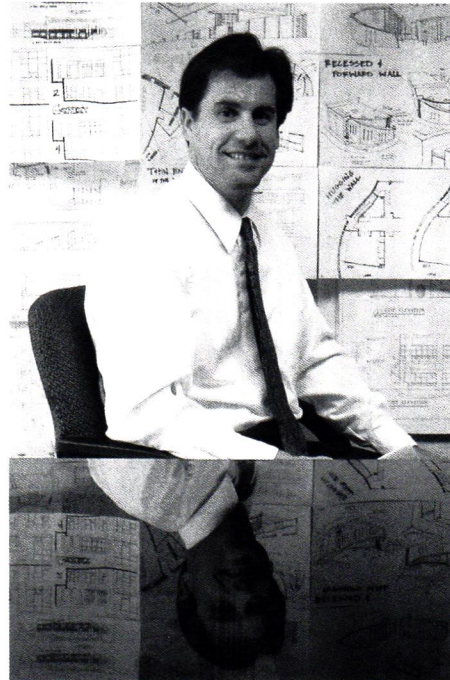
“Our primary mission is to serve as an information resource to address the issues of architectural internship and continuing education.”

The Prep Course Series covers the nine divisions of the A.R.E. established by the National Council of Architectural Registration Board (NCARB) in order to be licensed within the United States. They include: Pre-Design, Construction Documents, Materials & Methods, Mechanical/Electrical Systems, General Structures, and Lateral Forces. These are the multiple-choice divisions of the test. The three graphic divisions consist of Site Planning, Building Planning, and Building Technology.

In August, the series started with the Construction Documents division presented by Al Cuteri, AIA of Strada Architecture. Cuteri reviewed specific topics such as various AIA Documents, roles and responsibilities of architects in relationship to different contracts, and specifications. The second session of Construction Documents, presented by Kenneth Doyno, AIA of Rothschild Architects PC, reviewed quality/time management, cost estimating, and construction administration procedures. Both sessions were informative and motivational for the participating interns.

During the month of September, the Prep Course Series consisted of a review of the Materials & Methods division with Alex Brent, AIA of Lami Grubb Architects presenting the first session followed by Peter Margittai, AIA of Peter Margittai Architects. Brent covered site work, concrete, masonry, and metals while Margittai reviewed wood, thermal and moisture protection, and doors and windows. The open discussions of these two seminars was tremendous with both architects providing a resource of knowledge for the interns.

In the third month we introduced our first Consultants/Engineers as guest presenters for the Mechanical/Electrical division. During the first session we reviewed concepts of lighting, electrical systems, and environmental & cost analysis with Gerry Mattern of Carnegie Mellon University School of Architecture as the guest speaker. We had the delightful opportunity to feature Jonathan Iams, P.E. of Bert Davis & Associates who presented plumbing systems, HVAC systems, and code issues for the second session. The interns were pleased with the presentations of both and we look forward to having engineers present the Gen-



Daniel Rothschild, AIA of Rothschild Architects PC, presented Pre-Design issues such as land analysis, environmental factors, movement and utility systems, and land & building regulations to a group of twenty-five interns.

eral Structures and Lateral Forces divisions in the upcoming months.

November was a great month for the A.R.E. Prep Course Series as we continued to grow in numbers of participating interns. The Series averages around ten interns per session but during this month we exceeded that number for both sessions. The focus? Pre-Design with Daniel Rothschild, AIA of Rothschild Architects PC, presenting the first session and Kevin Hayes, AIA of Hayes Design Group, reviewing the second session. Rothschild had the distinction of presenting land analysis, environmental factors, movement and utility systems, and land & building regulations to a group of twenty-five interns.

Hayes followed with site planning issues, building prototypes, programming and space needs, and scheduling of design and construction. The presenters were both infor-

mative and resourceful and we hope they will join us again in the future.

As the Director of this Series, I would like to say thank you to all of the guest presenters and participating interns, because without your intensity this series would not be possible. I hope that we strive to produce more energy as a group so that we can grow and allow ourselves to be young architects who promote continuing education. I would also like to say thank you to the Board of Directors of PIYAF for allowing me the opportunity to direct this series. Though

many AIA Local Chapters throughout the country charge a substantial fee for their A.R.E. Seminars, PIYAF and AIA Pittsburgh are proud of the fact that we do not charge interns for this service. Our primary mission is to serve as an information resource to address the issues of architectural internship and continuing education. Please join us! For more information regarding the A.R.E. Preparatory Course Series Schedule please email us at piyaf@yahoo.com to be placed on our mailing list or visit our website at www.aiapgh.org

*Here are a few comments from some of the interns
who have attended previous sessions:*



Barnes

Melissa Barnes, Assoc. AIA • Strada Architects

"I have found the A.R.E. review sessions to be very helpful. They serve as a great refresher course for all of the classes that I took in college, and have given me the extra motivation that I needed to start studying seriously for the exam."



Winikoff

Stephen Winikoff • Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann Architects

"I find the lecture series to be very informative and positive in a number of respects. First, the seminars have been thorough and comprehensive. Second, making contact with the lecturers themselves has been a great benefit to a young architect trying to network with the design community in Pittsburgh. Third, meeting other young architects who are at a similar stage of the licensing process has been a great opportunity. Many of one's own questions get answered when someone else does the asking. It's a very positive environment and certainly provides a great deal of support during the examination process."

Aparna N. Patil • Design and Enclave Consultants

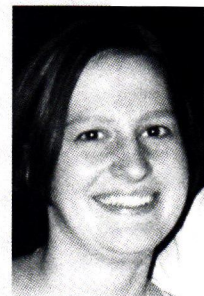
"I think the A.R.E. seminars expose me to the practicalities of the profession which I sometimes miss during office work. Also, the seminars help retain the sense of urgency about the exam."



Patil

Michele Adrianse, Assoc. AIA • Rothschild Architects PC

"I have found the sessions to be a great way for me to continue my architectural education by learning more of the practical information that is needed in practice, but that is not necessarily taught in school. The use of different presenters, both practicing professionals and educators, has also made it an interesting experience."



Adrianse



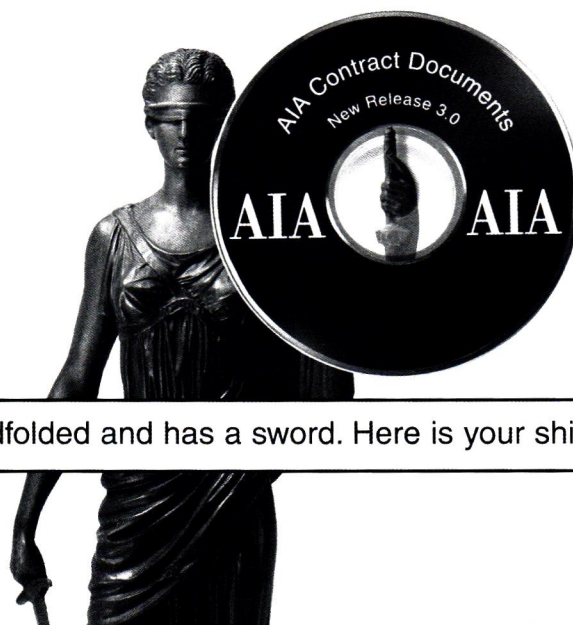
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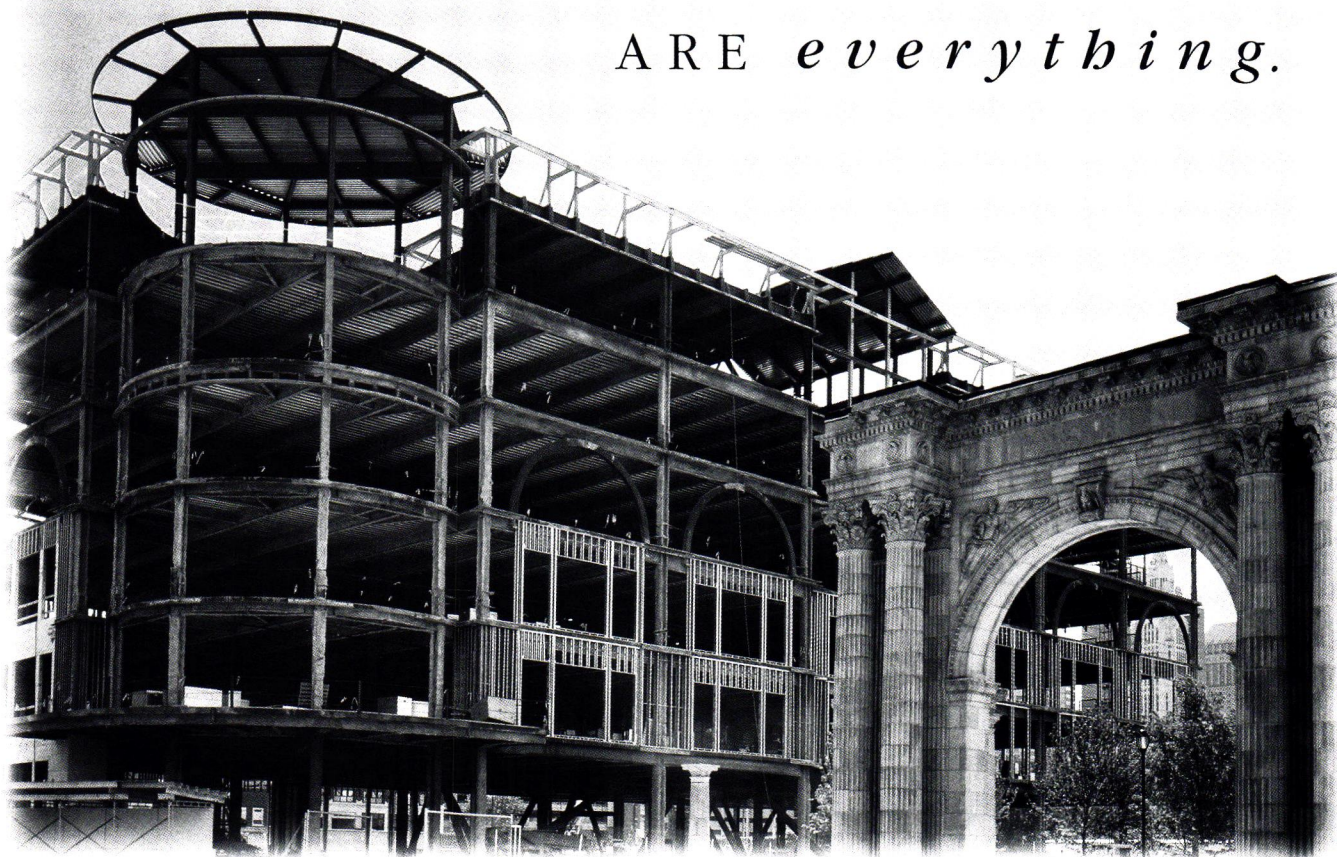


Justice is blindfolded and has a sword. Here is your shield.



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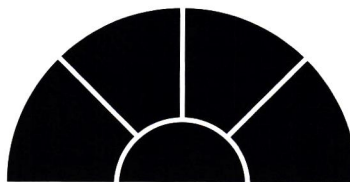
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From the Firms

► **JSA Architecture Planning Engineering Interior Design** announced the opening of Andy's Candies, a 2500 sf candy store in Robinson Town Center. The store, which features a carousel design theme, sells homemade candy, ice cream and coffee. Project architect was **Ray McCaughey, AIA** and project interior designer was Anita Myers.

JSA Architecture also recently completed drawings for a Club Lounge and Dining Facility to be located within the new Petersen Convocation/Events Center at the University of Pittsburgh. The 7,800 sf space will be available for use by club members and their guests prior to and during sports events and other university events held at the center. Project architect is **Mark Lighthall, AIA**. Project interior designer is Anita Myers.

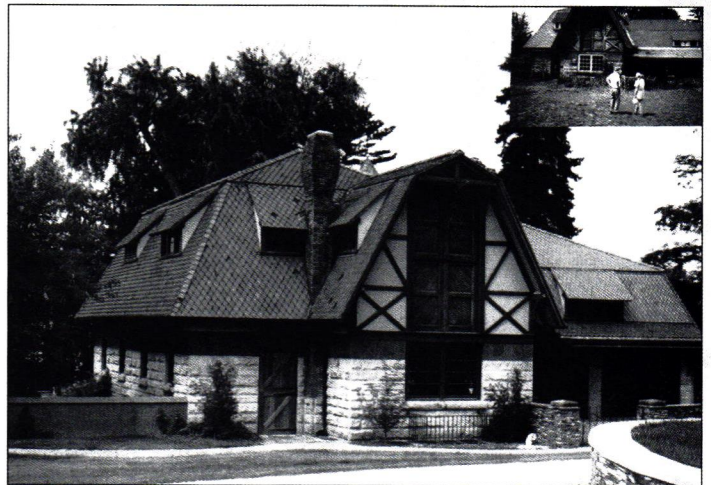
Valentour English Bodnar & Howell, Registered Architects has outlined a multi-phase program of renovations and expansions at St. Clair Hospital. The first phases of the program are in the design stages. A three-year construction program will begin with interior renovations to reallocate space within the hospital.

Radelet McCarthy recently completed the Pioneer Middle School in time for the opening of the school year. Pictured (below) is the full size court gymnasium designed for maximum flexibility. The gym is divisible into two separate sports areas and an adjacent room houses a portable raised stage that is "assembled" when needed. Not only will all three schools on the campus use the gym, but it will be available for the community as well.



Landau Building Company, in partnership with **WTW Architects**, recently completed the Sewickley Station, the new medical facility for Sewickley Dermatological Associates, Inc. The project consisted of converting an existing train station into a state-of-the-art medical office building while maintaining the historical integrity and period of the early 1920's exterior.

Ligo Architects of Slippery Rock is nearing completion of a three year project on a Western Pennsylvania estate (pictured below). The 1828 Manor House, expanded over the years, was essentially gutted with the interior rebuilt, reports **Lee Ligo, AIA**. Of special interest is the curly maple curving stairway rising three stories and then rising another 14 feet by means of a spiral staircase. The Carriage House (bottom photo), built in 1878 and designed by the Philadelphian architect Frank Furness, was also restored. In addition, two log houses were built for the ground supervisor and the housekeeper.



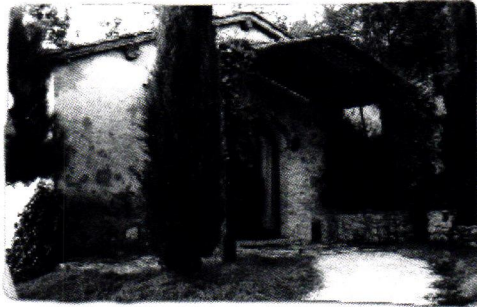
Residents of the 69-unit, 70,000 sf Carson Retirement Residence have enjoyed their first full year in the building. The structure was designed in a complementary style to the architecture of historic Birmingham, (Birmingham was a separate city and was annexed by Pittsburgh in the late 1800's.) The seniors are shielded from the weather and city noise by the ICF or insulated concrete form system which forms the exterior bearing walls. This buffer is provided by 8" of cast in place concrete surrounded

(continued on page 19)

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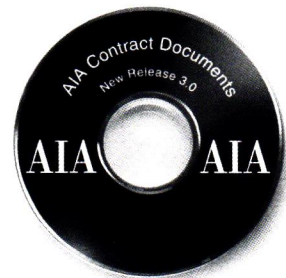
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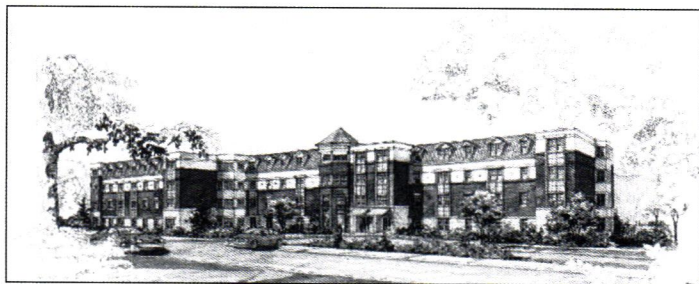
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(continued from page 17)

by thick layers of EPS insulation. R and STC values far exceed those of wood frame and conventional masonry bearing wall construction. This was the largest ICF structure built to date in the State of Pennsylvania. The Carson Retirement Residence is adjacent to the 30-unit Sarah Street Apartments, affordable family housing which provides an intergenerational complement to the project. **John A. Martine, AIA STRADA**, and Paul Rodriguez, Arch 1, of San Diego are the architects. Sota Construction is the contractor.



The Carson Retirement Residence

Kudos

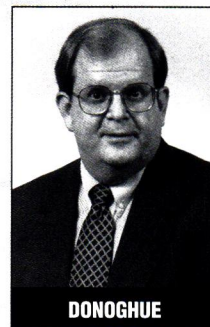
→ The Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation recognized the Sewickley Public Library as one of the 2001 Award of Merit recipients. The library was commended for the enlargement of its 1923 building. Architect was **N. John Cunzolo Associates**. Landau Building Company and Harris Masonry were responsible for the construction.

Liana Kallivoka, Ph.D, associate architect at **Kingsland Scott Bauer Associates (KSBA)** received accreditation through the LEED Green Building Rating System™, a priority program of the U.S. Green Building Council. Kallivoka works full time on research for **KSBA** projects and publications.

Business Briefs

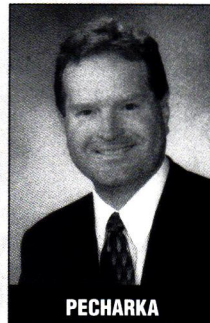
DRS Architects, Inc. rehired **William M. Erickson, AIA** as a senior member of the Healthcare Studio after a 15 year stint in Denver, CO. John Jasneski recently joined **DRS Architects** and brings extensive experience in both the educational and hospitality arenas. Edward Barnett has joined **DRS** as a Project Manager and Kathryn A. Jolley, ASID has rejoined the firm and will be in charge of interior design, marketing and client relations.

Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann announced that **Thomas J. Donoghue, AIA** has joined the firm's Laboratory Design Group. Donoghue comes to Burt Hill after 22 years as a corporate architect with Bayer Corporation, where he was responsible for planning, programming and project management for both new and renovation projects. He is a graduate of Kent State University with an MBA from the University of Pittsburgh Katz Graduate School of Business.



DONOGHUE

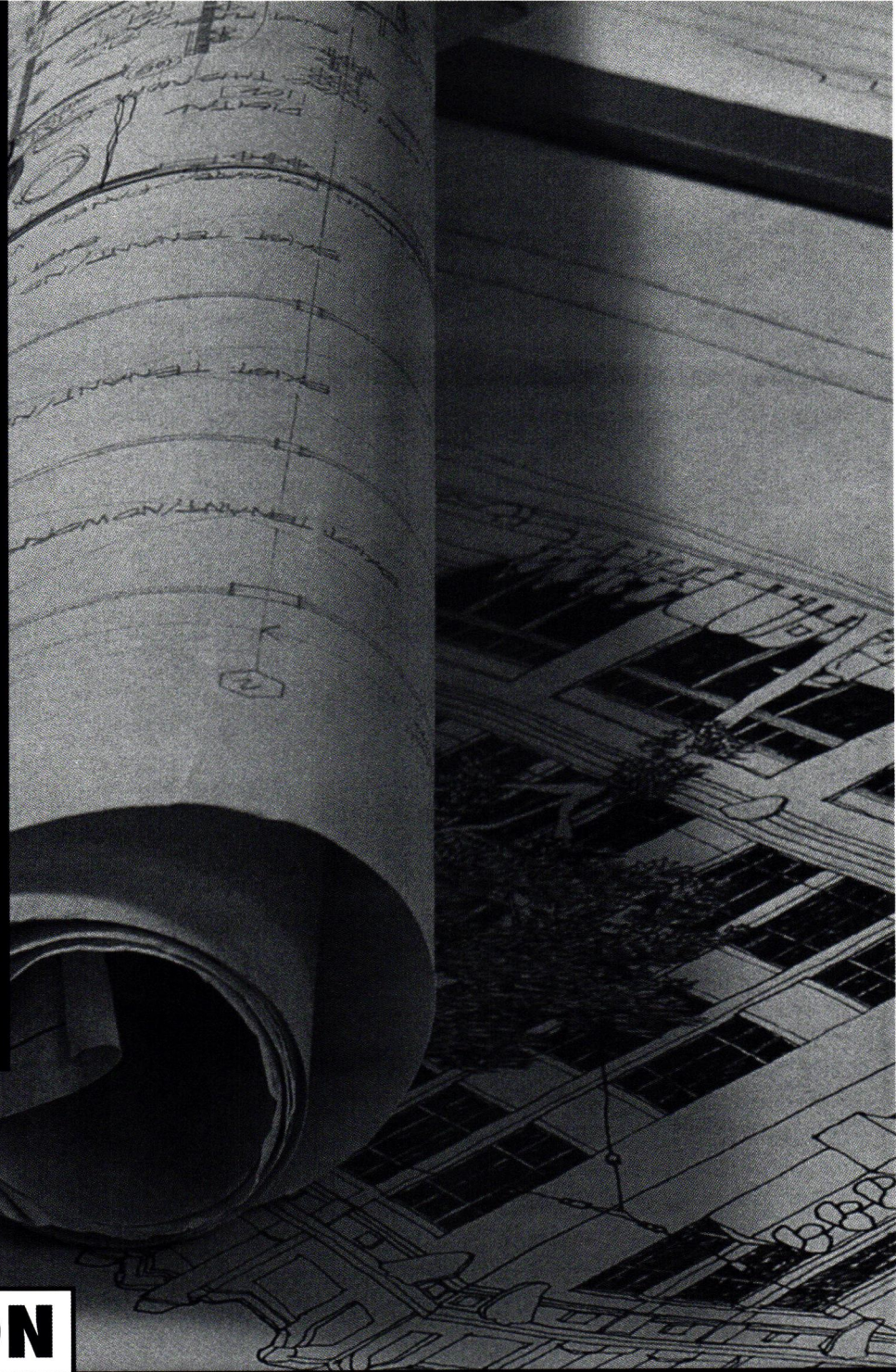
Baker and Associates, the architectural design and engineering services unit of Michael Baker Corporation announced the following: Paul W. Scanlon has been promoted to director of the North Region and Richard T. Bernet to director of engineering. Recently hired: **David Pecharka, AIA**, director of architecture, David M. Martin, structural engineering manager and Craig W. West, senior mechanical engineer.



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Please send your information to the attention of Joan Kubancek, AIA Pittsburgh, 211 Ninth Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, or fax it to Joan at 412/471-9501. The deadline for inclusion is normally six weeks prior to publication. If you would like information describing qualified continuing education programs, please call the AIA office at 412-471-9548.

AIA Pittsburgh is using e-mail to keep our members informed of the chapter's activities. If you would like to be included and are a member, please send your address to aiapgh@sgi.net.

AIA ACTIVITIES

January 8, Tuesday

Professional Development Committee Meeting noon at the Chapter office, 412-471-9548.

January 14, Monday

AIA Pittsburgh Board Meeting 5 p.m. at the Chapter office. All members are welcome, 412-471-9548.

January 17, Thursday

Legislative Committee Meeting, noon at the Chapter office, Chuck Coltharp, AIA, 724-452-9690.

January 23, Wednesday

AIA Pittsburgh's Foundation for Architecture 5 p.m. at the Chapter office. Contact Ed Shriver, AIA, 412-263-3800.

February 1, Friday

Communications Committee Meeting, noon at the Chapter office, 412-471-9548.

February 11, Monday

AIA Pittsburgh Board Meeting 5 p.m. at the Chapter office. All members are welcome, 412-471-9548.

February 12, Tuesday

Professional Development Committee Meeting noon at the Chapter office, 412-471-9548.

February 21, Thursday

Legislative Committee Meeting, noon at the Chapter office, Chuck Coltharp, AIA, 724-452-9690.

February 27, Wednesday

AIA Pittsburgh's Foundation for Architecture 5 p.m. at the Chapter office. Contact Ed Shriver, AIA, 412-263-3800.

AROUND TOWN

January 8, Tuesday

CSI Meeting: The Most Common Problems in Specifying Door Hardware. Rich Kiefer will address a joint meeting of CSI and The Door and Hardware Institute. Greentree Holiday Inn. 6 p.m. Social; 6:30 p.m. Dinner. Contact Deborah Merges at 412-855-0928 or dmerg@home.com by January 4 for reservations.

January 22, Tuesday

ULI Pittsburgh: Brain Power and Real Estate. Speakers include Rand Corporation, Seagate and Siemens. Rivers Club at One Oxford Centre 8:00 - 10:00 a.m., \$30 for members, \$40 for non-members. Information at ULI.org.

January 30, Wednesday

ASLA Membership Meeting at Klavon Design Associates, 915 Penn Ave., (in the Cultural District) Suite 1005. 412-394-1181 for directions, RSVP at 412-732-0200.

February 12, Tuesday

CSI Meeting. The University of Pittsburgh Convocation Center. The story of the structure will be followed by a tour. Time to be announced. Pitt Convocation Center in Oakland. Dinner \$23. Contact Deborah Merges at 412-855-0928 or dmerg@home.com by February 7 for reservations. Space may be limited.

February 13, Wednesday

Society of Design Administrators. Monthly meeting at the Engineer's Club. 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch \$17 for members, \$19.50 for non-members. Reservations call Cheryl Marlatt at 412-281-1337.

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A LISTING OF AREA CONTRACTORS AND THEIR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES. To include your firm in this directory, call AIA Pittsburgh at 412-471-9548.

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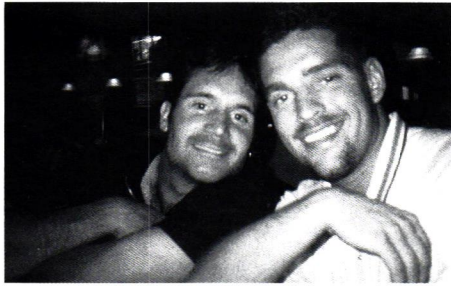
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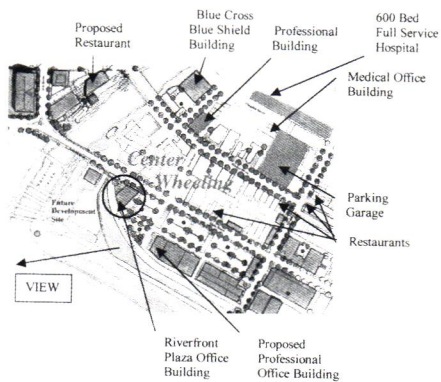
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Joe Touvell, Assoc. AIA



Joe Touvell (right), hanging out with best friend.



FIRM: Rothschild Architects PC. I'm an intern who has a tremendous passion for architecture and has many other interests like basketball, traveling, and spending time with friends and family.

YEARS IN PRACTICE: 3 years

EDUCATION: Master of Architecture from Syracuse University



FAVORITE PROJECT: The Wagner Building, Riverfront Plaza Office Park (above and left). This Office Building Renovation has a special meaning to me because the existing structure is located in my hometown and on the same site that I used for my Thesis Project while attending Syracuse University. Its not often that an intern has the opportunity to work on a "real" project that involves their Thesis Project.

LOCATION: Wheeling, WV

FIRM: McKinley and Associates

FAVORITE CITY AND WHY?

My favorite city is Rome (vacation picture at right) because I really admire the classical language of architecture with respect to its use as "the common architectural language" of practically the whole civilized world in five centuries between the Renaissance and of our own time.



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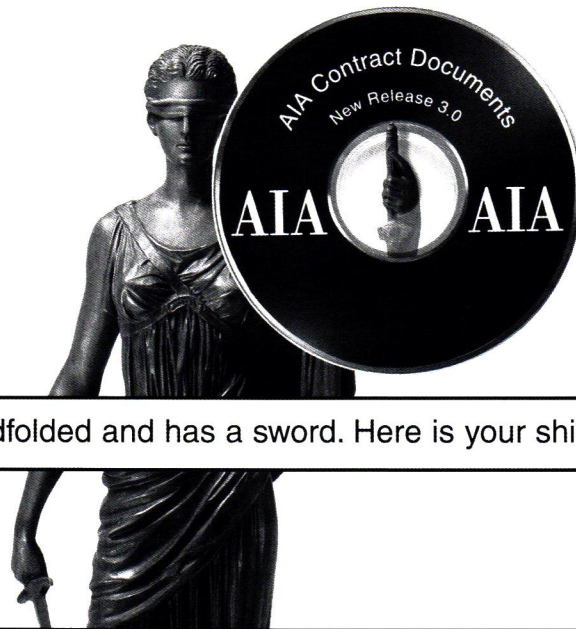
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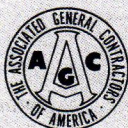
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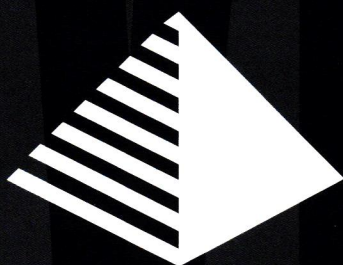
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