2010 AIA National Convention Offered Tremendous Educational Tours

This was my first experience at an AIA National Convention. As editor of this newsletter for several years and wife of an Architect, I couldn't wait to actually attend the 2010 convention in Miami, Florida. Although I wasn't registered as a participant, I was as a “guest” and that permitted me to walk around the floor and take in the thousands of vendors as well as go on a few of the tours that were offered.

Our first tour was the Coastal Parks that are part of Key Biscayne. It was very interesting to me since my “real job” involves development of parks and trails. We were treated to a visit to the oldest structure in Florida — a beautiful lighthouse from the mid 1800’s. At over 90 feet in height — and an air temperature in the high 90’s — our group was invited to climb the spiral staircase to the top. What a beautiful site to see the Miami skyline, the beach, the unusual homes of “Stiltville” in Biscayne Bay, and, of course, the Atlantic Ocean.

We also visited a nature conservancy center that was established through the joint efforts of the Miami/Dade County school teachers and conservationists. This area is utilized year round to educate children — and adults — of the wonders of the environment and wildlife and its importance to the preservation of Southern Florida and beyond.

Our next tour included the classic art deco section of Miami. I have to admit that this is what I was truly waiting for. Our group formed at the Art Deco Welcome Center early in the morning . . . but that didn’t mean we escaped the Miami heat . . . it was 90 degrees already and only 8:30 a.m. Undaunted, we struck out on a two hour walk that included some of the most famous examples of the genre. Examples of ziggurats and window eyebrow building components were noted on virtually every Deco building. We also saw the Versace Mansion. Mr. Steven J. Pynes, AIA, Partner with the firm of Bermello Ajamil & Partners, Inc., of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, and member of the Art Deco Preservation Society, was our tour guide. His knowledge and information AND appreciation of this design style made the two-hour adventure fly by.

This was a fabulous experience and one that I will not soon forget!
Message From the President

Rick Cyman, AIA

It has been a few years since my last visit to Miami Beach, Florida, but this year’s AIA National Convention gave me the opportunity to see how much the city has changed. Rich with diverse architectural styles, diverse cultures and plenty of sunshine, Miami is definitely a place you should add to your “need to see list.” This year, the Convention was held from June 10-12 and we had six representatives, along with their spouses, attend…..not bad for a small volunteer chapter!

One of the reasons I enjoy attending the National Convention is that I am given a chance to acquire most of my continuing education credits for the year. I managed to obtain 12 credits at this year’s event; which I received, primarily, by participating in building tours. I find tours more interesting and engaging than sitting in a classroom. This year, my favorite tour consisted of walking through South Beach and viewing Art Deco and MiMo (Miami Modern) style buildings, as well as learning about the city’s rich heritage. Our chapter also got together one evening for dinner. We started doing this several years ago and it has become one convention event I really look forward to. This year’s Middle Chapter dinner was memorable…a good time was had by all.

At the annual business meeting, the delegates overwhelming approved Resolution 10-3, a motion sponsored by AIA Pennsylvania. The resolution titled “Support for Development of the International Green Construction Code” is included in this newsletter for your review (See Pages 9 and 10).

Once again, our annual chapter picnic will be held at the Schwab Estate in Loretto, PA, courtesy of L. Robert Kimball and Associates, on July 16th. The estate offers a beautiful setting for this event and provides a great opportunity to visit with friends and colleagues. In addition, we have a number of folks coming from AIA PA to visit with us, so I hope you can join everyone and celebrate the summer. Many thanks go out to Brian Hayes and Dave Reasinger for making all the arrangements for this wonderful event.

In other news, Tom Columbus, Jr. has volunteered to serve as the Second Vice President for the Chapter and will become the 2012 President Nominee. From everyone in our chapter, I would like to say ‘thanks’ for your continued dedication and leadership.

Enjoy the summer.

Regards, Rick
For the Good of the Order

Comments on the Profession of Architecture by Tom Columbus Jr., AIA, LEED AP

Parametricism

Chances are you thought the same way I did when I first saw the word “parametricism”. In most firms (including where I am now), this terminology is an unknown. Believe it or not, the signature architect projects that are being built are being classified in the parametricism style by architectural critics and the people in the “know”. The declaration is that architectural styles have evolved through the époques of Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, Classicism, Historicism, and Modernism and through the transitional episodes of Art Nouveau, Expressionism, Postmodernism, Deconstructivism, Minimalism, and the like, and now we are completely absorbed in Parametricism. Critics claim this époque is offering a new approach to architecture with the utilization of advanced computational tools and techniques, newer building materials, and efforts for zero carbon. The building components are animate, dynamic, and interactive entities—splines, nurbs, and subdivs. To visualize, google Zaha Hadid Architects’ stations for the Nordpark Cable Railway in Innsbruck, Austria. What will they think of next?
YOUNG ARCHITECTS FORUM

We are looking for a representative from the Middle Pennsylvania Chapter AIA to be a local liaison for the Young Architects Forum (YAF).

Young Architects (0 - 10 yrs.) licensed have already been recruited from the Central, Eastern, Pittsburgh and the Philadelphia chapters.

If you are interested or may know of someone who is interested, please contact Denise Thompson by email (DThompson@franciscauffman.com) with your contact information. If you cannot fill this position but know someone that is interested, please forward that person's name and contact information.

AIAPA charter for YAF was approved by the State Board of Directors. Facebook page and Linked-In page are up and running. YAF National and the College of Fellows are developing a mentoring program. More to come as this develops.

KAPLAN ARCHITECTURAL EXAM PREP

Over the past several months, our Chapter’s Executive Board has been discussing the idea of obtaining some educational information to aid our members in preparation for the PA Architectural Registration examination.

The Committee has decided that the Kaplan ARE (architectural registration exam) Prep Program may be an excellent aid for this purpose. This is part of Kaplan’s Continuing Education Professional Development Series. The Chapter would purchase the program, and it would be housed at the Architectural Library at the Stuckman Family Building (formerly known as the SALA Building) on the Penn State University Campus.

Our question to the membership is: “If this resource was available, would you or a colleague or staff member be likely to use it?”

Please cast your vote by emailing David Reasinger at der19@psu.edu and answering in the following manner:

Yes, I feel this would be a valuable resource to be available to members, staff, students, etc. in preparation for the PA registration exam and agree the Chapter SHOULD purchase the Kaplan ARE Prep Program;

Or

No, I would not use this resource and feel the Chapter SHOULD NOT purchase the Kaplan ARE Prep Program.

Thank you.

Please respond to David by Monday July 15, 2010
Klein Immergrün, 439 Brick Road, Loretto, PA 814-472-7411
Summer home of Mr. and Mrs. L. Robert Kimball and former
Norman Village, part of the Charles Schwab Estate

5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Social – Compliments of L. Robert Kimball & Associates
Architects and Engineers

6:00 p.m.
Dinner

Landmarks

1. Saint Francis University
2. Immergrün Golf Course
3. Former Charles Schwab Estate Gatehouse
4. Former Charles Schwab Estate
5. Lake Rowena

From Pittsburgh and West

2. Turn sharp right at traffic light (lake Rowena on left)
   onto Manor Drive.
   (Don’t knock over the monument and don’t bear right.)
4. Pass Immergrün Golf Course on right. Turn Hard Right at stop sign
   and go through ivy-covered stone gate posts to Klein Immergrün.

From Altoona and East

1. Take PA Turnpike to Bedford Exit -
   Take Route 220 N to US Route 22 West.
2. Take US-22 West to Summit Exit.
3. Turn right onto William Penn Highway. Go straight at Cresson
   traffic light. Go under what was the Pennsylvania Railroad main
   line tracks.
4. Pass McDonald’s. Turn right at Dollar General. Drive four miles.
   Proceed thru Loretto to Village Cross Monument Circle.
5. Bear Right and Pass Immergrün Golf Course on right.
6. Turn Right at Stop sign and go through ivy covered stone gate posts to Klein
   Immergrün.

$25 per person (guests are welcome)
RSVP to David E. Reasinger, Assoc. AIA
by Thursday, July 8, 2010 at noon.
phone (814) 863-3868
email der19@psu.edu

Make check payable to AIA Middle PA Chapter
and mail to David E. Reasinger, Assoc. AIA
Pennsylvania State University
113 Office of Physical Plant
University Park, PA 16802
Three 1-Day Seminars On

RESIDENTIAL FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS

July 6 at Clinton Township Volunteer Fire Company, 2311 State Rt. 54 Hwy Montgomery, Pa. 17752
July 7 at Code Inspections, Inc., 268 Overton Road, Dushore, PA 18614
July 8 at Centre Region Code, 2643 Gateway Drive, State College, PA 16801

Three 1-day residential fire sprinkler training seminars will be presented by Cecil Bilbo, fire protection industry expert and the Academy's Director of Engineering Technology, to train participants in Northern PA on the IRC P2904 and NFPA 13D standard covering the installation of sprinkler systems in one and two family homes and manufactured housing. This seminar is being brought to you by Rowe Sprinkler Systems, Inc and the Academy of Fire Sprinkler Technology, with the assistance of Code Inspections, Inc., Mansfield Codes Office, PennBOC, Centre Region Code and the PA Fire and Emergency Services Institute.

Code Inspections, Inc. will furnish attendees with a Certificate for 6 CEU credits for the day-long session.

Mr. Bilbo will educate participants on how IRC P2904 applies to multipurpose residential sprinkler systems and provide a chapter-by-chapter discussion on the NFPA 13D standard to gain an understanding of water supplies, system layout options, sprinkler selection, pipe sizing, system components and installation tips.

Training registration is open to all interested parties, and is aimed at

- Building Code Officials
- Fire Inspectors
- Plan Reviewers
- Fire Sprinkler Contractors
- Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors
- Architects and Engineers

The Seminars will run from 9 AM -4 PM, with Lunch included. Fee is $125 and includes a copy NFPA 13D Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Manufactured Housing and the IRC P2904 tables. Participants should bring a calculator. Patty Clement is taking reservations at patty@rowesprinkler.com; 570-837-7647; fax 570-837-6335.

Mr. Bilbo founded the Academy of Fire Sprinkler Technology in Champaign, IL and serves as Director of Engineering Technology. The Academy is the world’s only work-study program offering an Associates Degree in Applied Science: Sprinkler System Technology. Mr. Bilbo is a Member of the NFPA Technical Committee on Automatic Sprinklers, producer of the NFPA 13, 13R and 13D standards for fire sprinkler installations, and NFPA 3, Standard for the Commissioning and Integrated Testing of Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems. He works with the Engineering Department of the National Fire Sprinkler Association and has presented hundreds of seminars across the US.

This seminar is one of a series of training opportunities by Rowe Sprinkler Systems, Inc., a design-build fire sprinkler contractor providing Commercial, Industrial and Residential sprinkler systems; Inspection, Testing and Maintenance Services; and Emergency Service. Rowe Sprinkler was recently named a Preferred Contractor for Rapid Response Home Fire Sprinkler Systems in Central PA by Tyco Fire Suppression and Building Products, leading manufacturer in the fire protection industry. Rowe Sprinkler is a Licensee for Tyco Fire’s Quell Technology for Unheated Storage.
Continuing Education Opportunity

The Stuckeman Family Building on the Penn State University Campus, was the location of the Middle Chapter’s latest offering for continuing education. Here, on May 12, 2010, Sherwin-Williams, Kalwall and Cornell Iron Works offered up-to-date information on technology advancements within their field of products.

Mr. Jim Geist, CSI, CDT of Sherwin-Williams reviewed the components of paint and what in the make up of the components allows for varying abilities of the paint. The components of paint – pigments (determines sheen, color, and brightness) binders (component that holds pigments together) and solvents (drying vehicle that carries pigments) were thoroughly reviewed and discussed. Substrate preparation and application techniques were also discussed.

Mr. Dave Montgomery of Kalwall Corporation explained the use of free energy (sunlight) and how it could be used for lighting purposes. Comparisons between direct and diffused sunlight were explained. Foot candle needs for various tasks, and how they could be achieved with natural light were reviewed and explained. The harmful affects of ultraviolet A and B light and how to combat them were shown. LEED points utilizing natural light were also itemized.

Finally, Mr. Paul Smith, CSI of Cornell Iron Works, reviewed the Code requirements for fire doors and how to achieve required ratings with various doors, including accordion doors. Enclosures and corridor paths created by folding fire-rated partitions were shown. All fire-rated folding partitions can be tied in to an alarm system and automatically close. A back-up battery is provided for the closing action. The partition provides man-doors with panic hardware when required by Code.

All of the above 1 hour sessions were pre-approved by AIA for continuing education hours.

CHAPTER MAILING ADDRESS CHANGE

Please note if you are using the U. S. Postal Service to contact the AIA Middle PA Chapter, our address has changed. Please use the following address:

AIA Middle PA Chapter
c/o Ms. Carmen L. Wyckoff, AIA, LEED AP
Hayes Large Architects LLP
200 W. Beaver Ave #200
State College PA 16801

Thank you for your cooperation!
The Sights of the 2010 AIA National Convention, Miami, Florida
Resolution 10-3

Support for Development of the International Green Construction Code

AIA Pennsylvania

The Institute should continue to be an active leader in the development, adoption, administration and enforcement of model building codes. As such, the purpose of the resolution is to renew the AIA’s support and funding of its efforts related to the work of the Sustainable Building Technology Committee (SBTC) on the International Green Construction Code (IGCC) through the 2012 code cycle. In addition to support and funding of the work of the SBTC, the AIA should also provide assistance to state and local components as they seek adoption of the code in their respective jurisdictions.

WHEREAS, there exists a global and rapidly increasing awareness that the creation of our built environment must evolve to embody the principles of sustainability and resource conservation; and

WHEREAS, architects, as leaders in the creation of the built environment, are challenged with finding a balance among the complex and often conflicting demands of our clients, our moral and ethical obligations to sustainable design, and the regulatory constraints in the design and construction industry; and

WHEREAS, the emergence and acceptance of green building rating systems has demonstrated that clear technical guidance in the pursuit of high-performance buildings will result in substantive transformation in the design and construction industry; and

WHEREAS, jurisdictions at the local, state, federal and international levels have expressed a desire for a regulatory framework, reflecting a comprehensive approach to guiding green construction in enforceable language; and

WHEREAS, federal, state and/or local incentives, such as grants, tax credits, and expedited approvals, are available for green buildings in many areas; and

WHEREAS, the code development process employed by the International Code Council (ICC) and supported by AIA policy for code development ensures a comprehensive, coordinated and contemporary approach to the design of a consistent set of model codes for all construction disciplines applicable and appropriate to each jurisdiction; and

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Washington, DC

Continued, See Resolution 10-3, Page 10
Resolution 10-3 (Continued from Page 9)

WHEREAS, the AIA has entered into partnership with the ICC and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) for the development of the International Green Construction Code (IGCC); and

WHEREAS, a multi-disciplinary Sustainable Building Technology Committee (SBTC) has been appointed with AIA architects represented on the committee and working groups to shepherd the development process of the IGCC through open meetings, work groups, and public participation; and

WHEREAS, the SBTC has indicated its commitment to an IGCC that works compatibly with the family of International Construction Codes; and

WHEREAS, the new IGCC will provide a regulatory framework for those jurisdictions planning to adopt additional code language that will work in concert with the existing International Construction Codes; and

WHEREAS, the IGCC will provide a base code with options to accommodate degrees of regulation dependent upon the local interests of the adopting jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, architectural licensure is upheld as the means to assure protection of the health, safety and welfare of the public; and

WHEREAS, said protection of the public interest is most directly achieved through the experienced application of building code knowledge to creation of the built environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the American Institute of Architects acknowledges its responsibility to be an active leader in the development, adoption, administration and enforcement of model building codes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors of The American Institute of Architects is directed to renew its support and funding of the AIA’s efforts related to the work of the SBTC on the IGCC through the 2012 code cycle; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the AIA should provide assistance to state and local components of the AIA as they seek adoption of the code in their respective jurisdictions.
SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR ADVERTISERS

Please call Dee Columbus at 814-749-7952 to place an advertisement here.