

## AIA MIDDLE PA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

*Sheetz Shwellness Center Location of Joint Meeting*

### ASHRAE and AIA Hold Annual Get Together



Blair County's only LEED certified building, the Sheetz Shwellness Center in Claysburg Pa, was the venue for the annual joint meeting of the AIA Middle Chapter and the Johnstown/Altoona area ASHRAE Chapter. The continuing education dinner seminar occurring on April 18, 2013, and offered to both Chapters' membership a presentation by Captive Aire Systems.

Brian Seidenstrieker and Jeremie White of Captive Aire Systems presented a power point presentation

accented with brief videos on commercial kitchen ventilation energy efficiency and sustainability. Both gentlemen were well qualified for the presentation. Brian has been serving as the Pittsburgh Regional Manager for Captive Aire Systems since 1995, and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Pennsylvania State University. Jeremie has six years of experience in the food service equipment industry, primarily with Sales and Application Engineering of commercial kitchen ventilation systems. He also holds a degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Arizona.

The presentation thoroughly examined the procedure in sizing commercial hoods with relation to Code requirements and frying surfaces. It covered fire suppression system requirements and exhaust paths of the hood. Videos of various set-ups strengthened the understanding of the diagrams and hood calculations. Do's and don't's and their consequences were exemplified in the videos.

Potential grease fire scenarios with examples in the videos had high impact in understanding hood ductwork and its path of travel. These videos also alerted you to grease build-up locations and what to do to avoid them.

Finally, the presentation covered roof exhaust types and set-ups. It explained exhaust direction, smell potentials, and the effect various degrees of grease exhaust had on different types of roofing materials and slopes.

The AIA Middle Chapter along with the Johnstown/Altoona ASHRAE Chapter wish to thank Brian and Jeremie for their informative continuing education presentation.

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## AIA MIDDLE CHAPTER ADDRESS

If you are using the U. S. Postal Service to Contact the AIA Middle PA Chapter, please use the following:

AIA Middle PA Chapter  
c/o Rebecca Griffith, Assoc AIA  
P. O. Box 1784  
Altoona, PA 16603

## NEXT MID POINTS

Deadline for articles and information for the next newsletter is:

**June 28, 2013**

Please contact Dee Columbus,  
Editor, tdta2000@comcast.net

## STAY CONNECTED

Please send new member information and any changes and/or additions in your contact information including email addresses to:

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1113 Physical Plant Building  
University Park, PA 16802  
P: 814.863.3868  
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der19@psu.edu

## WWW.AIAMIDDLEPA.ORG

Please be sure to visit the AIA Middle PA Chapter website to view the following:

- Chapter Officers
- Calendars
- Newsletter Archive
- Executive Committee Minutes
- Membership Information
- AIA Links
- Sponsorship & Advertising
- Mission Statement
- Project Photos

## Message from the President

*Tom Columbus, Jr., AIA, LEED AP*

Although the weather was cold and windy outside, the exchange inside at AIA National 's yearly Grassroots on March 20 thru 23 in Washington D.C. was warm and lively. I was pleased to represent the AIA Middle Chapter 's membership in the many discussions with colleagues and members of Congress.

My previous message referenced the amount of change in our Chapter and at the State level. I found out change is also occurring at the National Level. The AIA is in the process of undertaking a repositioning of fiscal resources and manpower. They stopped and reviewed efforts now being completed on behalf of all AIA members and found they were involved in over 300 projects. This is causing their resources to be stretched way too thin to be effective to the degree they felt it should be. During Grassroots (and how appropriate ) many breakout sessions were completed identifying specific needs of the membership and taking input from those present. Please visit the National website to see progress to date and provide input if desired.

We were then briefed on the issues AIA feels are most important to not only our membership, but also the public in general. The following are the items I presented to various members of Congress on your behalf:

### Simplify Taxes, Protect Small Businesses

Congress should protect small businesses as it debates tax reform. Approximately 8 in 10 architecture firms are organized as pass-throughs ( sole proprietors, S corporations and partnerships ). They pay taxes at individual-not corporate-rates. Small businesses make up the backbone of American business, and Congress needs to recognize this in making tax reforms.

### Save Energy, Create Jobs

In order to encourage new construction and renovations and support small businesses that do this work, Congress should extend and make modest improvements to the Energy Efficient Commercial Building Tax Deduction ( 179D ). Buildings account for 70% of the energy usage in the United States. Architects have the design skills needed to make buildings more energy efficient, saving energy for the nation and money for the owner. The AIA supports efforts being led in the Senate by Sen. Ben Cardin, ( D-MD ) and in the House by Reps. Dave Reichert ( R-WA ) and Earl Blumenauer ( D-OR ) that extend and improve the Energy Efficient Commercial Building Tax Deduction.

### Invest in the Next Generation of Leaders

Architecture Students are willing and able to contribute their design abilities to help their communities in exchange for student loan payoff assistance, but they need Congress to make this happen. Law and medical students are able to work off parts of their student loan. There is no reason why this option should be available to Architectural students.

### Improve Government Procurement to Help the Economy

Sharp cuts in Federal design and construction budgets make it more important than ever that procurement laws ensure small businesses have fair access to the federal marketplace. Each member must work with the House and Senate small business committees on common sense reforms to procurement that will help small firms enter the marketplace.

After our trips to Capitol Hill, we were introduced to the National AIA Candidates for various offices. Election will take place at the National Convention in Denver. There are two candidates for Treasurer, three candidates for Vice-President and four candidates for First Vice-President. I will vote on your behalf at the National Convention based on the candidates ' speeches and website statements. Should anyone have any input on who I vote for, please contact me.

## **AIA Associates Corner – 2013 Links**

**Safiya Hodari, Associate AIA**

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**Joanna Beres, Associate AIA**

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### **AIA Middle PA Chapter Seeking PAC Committee Representative**

With the retirement of Fred Fernsler, AIA, the AIA Middle PA Chapter is seeking a replacement for Fred as our representative on the AIA-PA PAC Management Committee. Anyone interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Fred at [fjfaia@aol.com](mailto:fjfaia@aol.com)

Thanks from your Chapter Executive Committee.

## Winners of the AIA Middle Pennsylvania Chapter Annual Charles Bruegebors (July 10, 1940- February 27, 2008) Competition



*Pictured left to right: Ty Richland, Jenelle Welch, and Matt Glodowski*

AIA Middle Chapter members, Jason Clapp, AIA (Strosser Architecture & Conservation), Brian Hayes, AIA (L.R. Kimball), and Dwight Knouse, AIA, (Hayes Large Architects) served as design judges spending the morning of May 10, 2013 critiquing over 20 students design work to select a winner for the annual Charles Bruegebors (July 10, 1940-February 27, 2008) Competition.

Awards were given in gift cards to the College Store at Penn College. First place award of \$200 went to Ty Richline, second place award of \$150 to Matt Glodowski, and third place award of \$100 to Jenelle Welch.

The judges selected the winners based on the students' design solution addressing the site context and project programming requirements. The winners communicated their design graphically better than their peers and had well thought out creative ideas. While these second year students are very early in their vocation, the judges look for qualities that show promise.

The project was an Alumni Centennial Pavilion to honor the college's centennial anniversary in 2014, to recognize all the alumni who have benefited from the offerings of the institution throughout its history, and to serve as the centerpiece for the official anniversary festivities.

Architectural Technology Instructor, Dan Brooks, said the students had less than a month to produce the work. He said the students look forward to the competition and they were very excited to participate in it. It started in 2008 when Brian Hayes was Chapter President and is now in its fifth year; the competition has developed a very good reputation in the architecture program at Penn College.

Jason Clapp, AIA (Strosser Architecture & Conservation) appreciated the opportunity to participate with the Middle PA Chapter. One of the reasons the competition is held at Penn College is to reach out to the Williamsport area of the geographically challenged chapter. Overall, it is a positive experience for the Chapter and the College.

# SAVE THE DATE!!!

AIA MIDDLE PENNSYLVANIA SYMPOSIUM

## ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS Partners in Progress

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2013**

Blair County Convention Center, Altoona

### SAVE THE DATE!

AIA Middle Pennsylvania Chapter Symposium

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2013**

Blair County Convention Center, Altoona

#### ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS - Partners in Progress

- Earn HSW and SD credits
- Practical information to share with clients
- Interactive vendor exhibition
- Networking with colleagues from architectural, engineering, construction and related fields

Contact Anne McGrath at [annefmcgrath@verizon.net](mailto:annefmcgrath@verizon.net)  
or 814-539-1317 for more info.

Visit [www.aiamiddlepa.org](http://www.aiamiddlepa.org) for exhibitor and sponsor info!



Thomas Columbus, Jr., AIA  
PO Box 158  
Vintondale, PA 15961-0158

# Symposium Set for October 24!

Planning continues for the 2013 Symposium. Be sure to mark your calendars today!

## **Architects and Engineers — Partners in Progress**

Thursday, October 24

8:30 a.m — 4:45 pm, with optional dinner presentation

Blair County Convention Center, Altoona

Here's what you'll gain after spending a day with colleagues and exhibitors:

- - HSW and LU credits through presentations provided by leading experts with additional presentations still to Come:
  - \* **Walk Schneider**, Center Region Code Administration
  - \* **Janel Everly**, Green Building Alliance, Pittsburgh
  - \* **Anthony Potter**, Powell Trachtman Logan Carrie & Lombardo
- - Practical information to take back to colleagues and clients
- - Insights on the latest architectural and engineering products and services available during the interactive vendor exhibition
- - Networking opportunities with colleagues from across west central Pennsylvania

Check the chapter web site and your inbox for more information and updates throughout the coming months. For more information, please contact Anne McGrath, event coordinator, at [annefmcgrath@verizon.net](mailto:annefmcgrath@verizon.net) or 814-539-1317.

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## **Online Registration Now Open!**

*No increase in Symposium Fees in 2013*

Online guest registration is now open and ready for business! Guests can register by visiting the chapter website at [www.aiamiddlepa.org](http://www.aiamiddlepa.org). Registration fees remain the same as 2011 as noted below:

|                                     |       |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Member (Register by 9/24) .....     | \$175 |
| Member (After 9/24) .....           | \$200 |
| Non-Member (Register by 9/24) ..... | \$200 |
| Non-Member (After 9/24) .....       | \$225 |

Please note that, in an effort to keep Symposium costs as low as possible, **printed registration materials will not be produced or mailed out**. However, guests can register directly through the chapter website via PayPal or download a paper registration form and mail it to:

Anne McGrath  
Event Coordinator  
409 Luzerne Street  
Johnstown, PA 15905

Be sure to budget for the Symposium now to take advantage of the early registration!

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## **New Vendors Signing Up**

This Symposium vendor exhibition continually gets high marks from Symposium guests who appreciate having the time to talk to industry representatives about the latest products and services. Companies appreciate the opportunity, too. Here's an updated list of who has already signed on to join us:

- Penn State University — COAA PA
- ELA Group — Matt Harlow, [mrharlow@elagroup.com](mailto:mrharlow@elagroup.com)
- Sherwin-Williams — Jim Geist, [jim.l.geist@sherwin.com](mailto:jim.l.geist@sherwin.com)
- Fierst Distributing — Jim Tasillo, [jim@fierstdistributing.com](mailto:jim@fierstdistributing.com)
- Keller Engineers — Randy Diviney, [rdiviney@keller-engineers.com](mailto:rdiviney@keller-engineers.com)
- Supply Source — Karen Temple, [karent@supplysourceinc.com](mailto:karent@supplysourceinc.com)
- Comfort Supply — Brendan Heckler, [bheckler@comfortsupplypgh.com](mailto:bheckler@comfortsupplypgh.com)

Please be sure to thank these representatives the next time you see them. Look for more information on participating vendors in the weeks and months to come.

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