

AIA MIDDLE PA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

2013 Symposium An Overwhelming Success

Thanks to All Who Joined Us at This Year's Symposium!

On October 24, nearly 40 architects, engineers and related professionals from around the region joined us for the 2013 AIA MPC Symposium. Guests gathered at the Blair County Convention Center in Altoona.

The event included five HSW seminars, as well as a vendor exhibition that attracted 34 companies representing a wide range of industries including flooring, brick, windows, engineering consulting, furniture, paints and coatings, interior design, lighting and more.

We extend our many thanks to HF Lenz and Halen Hardy, who joined us Symposium sponsors. We also thank our speakers, all of whom received top marks from guests in post-event surveys:

Janel Everly, LEED AP, BD+C, Green Building Alliance-Pittsburgh

Karen Arnold, PA Historical and Museum Commission

Walter Fowler, Chatham University

Michael Takacs, RLA, Civil and Environmental Consultants

Walter Schneider, Ph.D., Centre Region Code Administration

Anthony Potter, Esq., Powell Trachtman Logan Carrle and Lombardo

Exhibitors were very generous of their time and many donated great prizes that were awarded throughout the day including:

Customized Sonance 1-loop bike rack from **Keystone Ridge Designs**
Overnight stay for two at River Village Suites in Spruce Creek from **Halen Hardy**

Golf equipment from **RA Smith National**, **Guardian Glass** and **Stiffler McGraw**

Stadium blanket and duffel bag from **Keller Engineers**

Gift card from **Bobrick/Architectural Resources**

Water bottles from **ATAS International**

Wine from **Forbo Flooring**

Handcrafted clock from **PA Greater Regional Carpenters Council**

Growler pack from **Marzoni's Brewery**

Our thanks, too, to Larry Gresh and the **PA Greater Regional Carpenters Council** for hosting our dinner presentation.

Surveys from guests and exhibitors indicated the day was a great success. Thanks to all who came out and joined us. It was a pleasure to see you and we hope the Symposium met - and exceeded - your expectations. See you in 2015!

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NEXT MID POINTS

Deadline for articles and information for the next newsletter is:

January 10, 2014

Please contact Dee Columbus,
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STAY CONNECTED

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- Chapter Officers
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- Executive Committee Minutes
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- AIA Links
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Message from the President

Tom Columbus, Jr., AIA, LEED AP

Wow! A number of good things happened since my last message. The first was the great tour we had in September of Mount Aloysius's new Convocation Center designed by L.R. Kimball. Special thanks to the Kimball group for setting this up and taking us through the building. Check out the separate article in this Newsletter (Page 5).

Next our biannual Symposium which occurred in October. My two hats this year as Chairperson of the Symposium and President of our Chapter keeps me hopping, but it is well worth the networking experience gained from you, our members, and our vendors that are an important part of the design team. I personally received many compliments this year on the Symposium. One member even said it was the best ever! Special thanks to Anne McGrath and all of our speakers and vendors without whom the Symposium would not have happened! See the special article on it in this Newsletter (Front Page and photos on Pages 4 and 5).

Also, in regards to our Middle Chapter, I am very sorry to report that Brian Hayes has resigned from being the Middle Chapter's Pennsylvania Board Representative. Brian has always been a strong supporter of the Middle Chapter and the AIA in general. I – and I am sure our Middle Chapter members – look to see you back soon. In the meantime, we need to appoint a person to take Brian's place for a year. If there are any volunteers, please contact me.

In order to help our interns become professional members, I am happy to report that NCARB has eliminated the minimum duration requirements for work performed that qualifies for IDP requirements. This means that times like Christmas break from school where an intern works in a professional office for say, two weeks, will count as part of the overall requirement. I am glad to see that change and I believe so are many of our interns.

Finally, I hope many of you attended our tour of the new Penn State Pegula Ice Arena on November 19. Special thanks to Brian Endler and Dave Reasinger for coordinating this event. It is said to be the most modern ice arena and to have the hardest ice of any arena in the country! Check out our next newsletter for our article and photos from this tour.

Until next time,
Tom

AIA Associates Corner — 2013 Links

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AFFILIATES CORNER

AIA MPC Welcomes New Affiliates for 2014

We would like to welcome the following companies that have joined us as affiliates for 2014 after exhibiting at the Symposium. You'll be seeing and hearing more from them in the coming year but here's a quick peek at our newest members:

ESR, Energy Saving Roofing – John Rugg, john@esrhydrostop.com

Fierst Distribution – Jim Tasillo, jim@fierstdistributing.com

Keller Engineers – Randy Diviney, rdiviney@keller-engineers.com

Modernfold of PA – Chad Virostek, chad@modernfoldofpa.com

Look for more affiliates in the next issue!



Before ... and After!

Mike Miller, Halen Hardy, demonstrates the effectiveness of the company's new mobile air shower. In less than 20 seconds, Mike went from dust-covered to dust-free. The unit has applications at construction and Marcellus Shale sites, and can also be used for indoor construction projects.



Enjoying the Evening

Mike Makovsky, Daltile, enjoys the reception with Bryan Detwiler and Tom Columbus, members of the Sheetz team.



Guests enjoy dinner while Anthony Potter briefs them on industry ethical standards.



Tom Columbus thanks Janel Everly, Green Building Alliance, for sharing her expertise on integrated design.

MORE SCENES FROM 2013 SYMPOSIUM



Mount Aloysius Convocation Center



Several members of the AIA Middle PA Chapter had an opportunity to tour the new Mount Aloysius Convocation Center at the Cresson Campus. Mr. Andrew Kordish, Project Engineer, and Mr. Dave Gable, Project Manager, provided excellent background and information on the building.

L. Robert Kimball was the design firm for the project. Beginning in 2008, a study was performed to determine the scope of the project with the Kimball firm retained in 2011.

The final bid package was completed in April, 2012, and construction and substantial completion was attained on August

31, 2013. The total project cost was about \$24 million with about half of that funding coming from the State ARCAP Program.

The Convocation Center was design to accommodate commencement exercises, athletic events, student activities, and high school athletic events.

It is also hoped that this facility will help with the recruitment of high school student athletes to attend The Mount as well.




A clean design on the exterior was achieved in part through by using jumbo brick. The use of this material also was a cost saving choice saving the client about 2/3 the cost of labor than if regular brick had been used.

In addition to the gymnasium, the facility also has a student fitness center, various classrooms, and administrative offices.

Thanks to L. Robert Kimball staff and Mount Aloysius College for allowing us to tour their fine new Convocation Center.

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