

## AIA MIDDLE PA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

*2015 Calendar Set at Planning Meeting*

### *New Officers Elected at Knoll Furniture Sponsored Dinner Presentation*

The AIA Middle PA Chapter Executive Committee had its planning meeting for the coming year. Events for 2015 were penciled into the calendar including the 2015 Symposium. In addition, a brief general meeting was held at which a slate of officers for the next two-year term was nominated and elected. Your new officers are: President, Dave Albright AIA; Vice President, Brian Endler, AIA; Secretary, Ruchik Vyas, AIA; Treasurer Rebecca Griffith, Assoc. AIA. Out-going President, Tom Columbus Jr., AIA addressed the membership and thanked them for their help and support over the past two years. He related that he has gotten so much out of his experience and wished the best to the incoming board.

Following the business portion of the evening, Knoll Furniture then presented a program on the dangers of mold presence in buildings and how to be proactive in preventing its taking hold in the first place. Whitney Keiter, Kimberly Bombery Smith, Eron Bair, and David Besselman were present from Knoll. Ms. Bombery Smith was the presenter for the evening.

The most important consideration when designing and constructing a building is moisture control and an Air Management Plan should always be included as a integral part of the project. In order for mold to grow, there needs to be moisture, temperature, oxygen, and food. When these four conditions are present, mold will multiply with unbelievable speed and is many times in places where it cannot be seen such as under wall coverings. Because of the health impacts and huge monetary investments that can often be necessary to get rid of mold, every effort should be made in the beginning of a project to prevent mold. It is, therefore, extremely important to meeting with the client or building owner at the very outset of the project to incorporate all steps necessary to be ahead of any conditions that may be conducive to mold production.



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### **ANNOUNCING THE 2015 SYMPOSIUM!**

***Save the Date – 9/23/15!***

Mark your calendars today for the 2015 AIA MPC Symposium!

The day-long event will be held on **Wednesday, September 23, 2015** at the Penn Stater Conference Center in State College. Research is currently underway to line up dynamic speakers so that you can earn a range of continuing education credits. As always, we expect to have a great mix of exhibitors, as well as plenty of time to network with colleagues and clients.

Exhibitors are welcome to contact Anne McGrath at [annefmcgrath@verizon.net](mailto:annefmcgrath@verizon.net) for preliminary information. Feel free to send them her way! Check your inbox and mailbox in the coming months for regular updates.

We look forward to seeing you in September!



## 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:

**January 9, 2015**

Please contact Dee Columbus,  
Editor, [tdta2000@comcast.net](mailto: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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Pennsylvania State University  
1113 Physical Plant Building  
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## 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*

As we all know, all good things must come to an end! My two year stint as President of the AIA PA Middle Chapter is quickly coming to an end. I am typing this prior to our upcoming General Meeting on 11/24/14 where a new slate of Officers will be elected to carry forth our Chapter thru the next two years.

It has been a pleasure serving you as President these past two years. Being President and representing your best interests at the National, State, and local levels puts an entirely different perspective on being an architect and AIA member. I enjoyed being involved on the National level with Grassroots and the Convention and having input on AIA's repositioning to better align the Organization with our needs in architectural practice. We also discussed informing the public as best as we can to explain the skills and knowledge registered architects of the AIA bring to the table for any planning, design and construction project. There are a tremendous amount of skill sets we work with in order for us to do our job and add bottom line value to the project. If anyone gets an opportunity to go to a National Convention or to Grassroots, please do so! The events, the discussions, the vendors, the venue, all reinforce your design capabilities and make you proud to be a member of the American Institute of Architects!

Our yearly Architect's Day in Harrisburg is always a trip to remember. Here I was able to network with State Chapter leaders and our AIA PA staff. The events were always very efficient and worthwhile. We approached our legislative members to explain why certain bills were important to the health, safety, and welfare of the public and better for our economy.

Finally, involvement with you on the local level has always been and will always be a treasure I am thankful for! The contacts I have made networking with members of our Chapter and affiliated members and vendors, has been enjoyable and very worthwhile on both professional and personal levels!

I intend to remain an active member, still chairing the Symposium activities and offering the "Good of the Order" segment of upcoming Newsletters.

Until next time, from a different perspective,  
Tom

# AIA Associates Corner — 2014 Links

## **Safiya Hodari, Associate AIA**

AIA PA Regional Associate Director  
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## **Joanna Beres, Associate AIA**

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## **David E. Reasinger, Associate AIA**

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## **Sean Sheffler, AIA**

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## News from Our Affiliates

Architectural Clay Products, Inc. is happy to announce our latest addition to our product collection, Level 43 Mosaics. Partnering with Betona Tile, Level 43 Mosaics brings its own unique edge to sustainable design. Made in America (Michigan to be exact) and created using 100% recycled glass, Level 43 Mosaics truly is a one of a kind product that cohesively blends beauty with sustainability. In addition, Architectural Clay Products, Inc. will soon have stock of a number colors and styles of Level 43 Mosaic in our warehouse, located in the North Shore of Pittsburgh.

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## **Penn State University AIAS Off To A Great Year!**

**Rebecca Griffith and Dave Reasinger of the Middle PA Chapter attended the latest meeting of the PSU AIAS. This group of officers and students have had a very busy and successful semester and are eager to do even more in the second semester of this year.**

**The following are this years officers and committee chairpersons:**

**President - Maria Hurtado**  
**Vice President - David Ackerman**  
**Vice President - Chris Scalzo**  
**Treasurer - Natalie Hetu**  
**Secretary - Valerie Alvarado**  
**IDP Coordinator - Owen Marhefka**  
**Freedom By Design Director- Tyler Rafferty**  
**Freedom by Design Board - Alice Stewart Castner**  
**Freedom by Design Board - Lauren Obermiller**  
**Freedom by Design Board - Anastasia Limogiannis**  
**Social Chair - Brad Pawelczyk**  
**Media Chair - Mike Lindenmayer**  
**THON Chair - Megahn Tierney**  
**THON Chair - Brian Gruendl**




**Back row (Left to Right):** Danielle Mitchell(NEQ Director), Brian Grundel(THON Chair), Tyler Rafferty (FBD Director), Brad Pawelczyk(Social Chair), Owen Marhefka(IDP coordinator), David Ackerman(Vice President), Anastasia Limogiannis (FBD Board Member)

**Middle Row (Left to Right):** Meghan Tierney(THON Chair), Chris Scalzo(Vice President), Lauren Obermiller(FBD Board Member) Valerie Alvarado (Secretary), Mike Lindenmayer (Media Chair)

**Front Row (Left to Right):** Natalie Hetu(Treasurer), Amanda Rigoni (Fundraiser Chair), Maria Hurtado (President), Alice Stewart Castner (FBD Board Member)

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