

Chapter Wraps Up Successful 2015 Symposium

Many thanks to the chapter members, guests, exhibitors and speakers who joined us for the 2015 Symposium. Thirty members and related professionals attended the event, and had the chance to meet with 28 companies that exhibited their latest products and services.

We extend a very special thank you to our speakers who gave their time and expertise throughout the day. Our slate, who helped guests earn up to seven continuing education credits, included:

Stephen Swarney, AIA Pennsylvania
The Harrisburg Process

Irvin Spoonhour, Approved Code Specialists
2016 Accessibility Code

Mark Dietrick, Case Technologies, and Drew Weinheimer, AE7
Design Strategies for the BIM Workflow

Matt Hertzog, PA DCED, and Scott Doyle, PHMC
Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program

Anthony Potter, Powell Trachtman, Logan and Carrle
Construction Administration Services

Michael Faccente and Brian Hamilton, Automated Logic
Big Data at Bryce Jordan Center: The Intelligent Building System of the BJC

Turn to **Page 4** for a few photos from the day. See you in 2017!

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Legislator

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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:

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NEXT MID POINTS

Deadline for articles and information for the next newsletter is:

January 10, 2016

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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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



AIA Pennsylvania

Senate Vote on Architect Professional Services Tax This Week **Contact your legislator immediately!** Vote No on Professional Services Tax

The Senate is scheduled to vote on an amendment this week including a NEW professional services tax on architects.

Please contact your legislators immediately and ask them to **oppose additional taxes on professional/architectural services.**

The architecture industry was one of the hardest hit professions during the recession with high unemployment rates. The industry is slowly starting to recover; however, additional taxes on professional services will further harm this recovery in a variety of ways. In addition, these taxes will make Pennsylvania businesses less competitive and possibly discourage local growth and development.

This tax puts architects at a major disadvantage because you will also very likely be hit with an increased sales tax and personal income tax.

If you do not know who your legislator is, visit: [this website](#) and click "Find My Legislator". Once you have made contact, please send any correspondence to Holly Lubart at hlubart@aiapa.org.

Thank you for standing up for your profession!

AIA Associates Corner — 2015 Links

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GOOD OF THE ORDER

A quick look at the Dodge reports show construction permits and projects have both been on the rise through the fall. Gas prices have fallen and in some places particularly VA, the prices are continuing to fall. VA actually has some places where unleaded is under \$2.00 a gallon. Hiring is also on the increase in Architectural and Engineering Firms. As a matter of fact, the numbers of resumes being sent for job openings in firms that are hiring have declined. I was told this personally by two different acquaintances. Consumer optimism is also up. The number of construction bids on publicly bid projects has also declined. To me, it sounds like our industry has become leaner and meaner in a stronger construction and economic climate. Some predictions have this continuing to the next Presidential election. Hopefully, our members can take full advantage of this wave of a positive environment in our industry.

Until next time,

Tom

VIEWS FROM 2015 SYMPOSIUM



Steve Swarney, AIA PA, kicks off the 2015 AIA Middle PA Chapter Symposium



Dave Albright, Steve Swarney, Dave Reasinger, and Tom Columbus



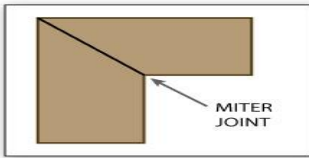
Steve Swarney discusses the day's events with Dwight Knouse and Tom Columbus



Vendor Exhibition Area was busy all through the



Attorney Tony Potter discusses Construction Services during concluding presentation



AFFILIATES CORNER

A Focus On ... E. B. Endres Inc.

E. B. Endres Inc. is an AWI-QCP shop. We provide custom architectural millwork, wall panels, casework and countertops. We have a proven track record of producing high-quality products for everyone from large corporations to neighborhood cafes. We pride ourselves on our on-time delivery and profes-

Our specialty project areas include: Education, Healthcare, Corporate, Government, Retail and Convenience stores. Some recent projects included: Wells Fargo, Flight 93 Memorial & Visitor's Center, Sheetz Inc., and Pollock Dining Renovation at Penn State University, which received a Facility

Visit www.ebendres.com to view project examples or contact Richard J. Endres, Jr., President or Todd Speck, COO for additional information.

News from Our Affiliates

Modernfold Companies of Pa. is pleased to announce **Jeff Carty** as the new Architectural sales representative for the Johnstown/Altoona/State College and Williamsport territory. Jeff comes with over 25 years of experience representing various manufacturers in the commercial construction products industry. He can be reached at 814-418-4596, jcarty@modernfoldofpa.com or at our sales office at 9 Winchester Road, Indiana, PA, 15701. Please welcome Jeff and contact him should you require any technical information on your next project.

Stahl Sheaffer Engineering, LLC (Stahl Sheaffer) is a multi-discipline, 85-person civil engineering firm that provides survey, land development, traffic engineering, roadway maintenance, feasibility studies, building structural design, bridge design and NBIS, permitting, and construction inspection services. We support architect-led projects with all of these services for open end and project-specific agreements in both the public and private sector.

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News *(Continued from Page 5)*

Our team includes licensed or certified civil engineers, LEED designers, Professional Traffic Operation Engineers (PTOE), Certified Bridge Safety Inspectors (CBSI), construction inspectors, surveyors, geotechnical analysts, and environmental scientists. Many have formerly served as municipal staff engineers. We have extensive experience with associated local permitting procedures, municipal requirements, etc., and know the processes involved in moving engineering designs through municipal staff reviews, design review boards, and planning commission approvals.

We are headquartered in State College, with additional offices throughout Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia; we are licensed in Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York, Ohio, and West Virginia. To learn more, please contact Cristina Barnes at 814.689.1562, cbarnes@sse-llc.com, or visit sse-llc.com.

2015 Affiliate Members

Many thanks to our 2015 affiliate members, many of whom joined us as part of 2015 Symposium activities.

Appleridge Stone International, Inc.

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(Continued . . . See "2015", Page 6)

2015 Affiliates Members *(Continued from Page 6)*

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Keller Engineers

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We always look forward to their perspectives! Companies can renew their 2016 affiliate membership by contacting Anne McGrath at annefmcgrath@atlanticbb.net.

(Continued . . . See Affiliates Corner, Page 8)

Fire Classifications for Toilet Partitions?

Have you ever heard of such a thing? Well, you should have by now because the International Building Code (IBC) 2006 established a fire classification requirement for toilet partitions. The fire classification is to be determined by the ASTM E-84 test, known in layman's terms as the tunnel test. The International Code Council, responsible for the IBC, decided that toilet partitions should no longer be considered furniture and should now be considered an Interior Wall and Ceiling Finish which require a fire classification.

Fast forward to the IBC 2009 and there was a change in this requirement. The new code requires toilet partitions made from high density polyethylene (HDPE/solid plastic) to pass the NFPA 286 test, known as the corner room test. This is a more stringent test and is a pass/fail test and does not establish a fire classification. All other toilet partition material still needs to have a fire classification based on ASTM E-84.

So the next time you are writing your toilet partition specifications make sure you include these requirements and documentation from the manufacturer that their material meets the current codes.


Mike Clancy CSI CDT
mike@archres-inc.com

Bobrick Representative

New Email Address

Anne McGrath, affiliate coordinator, will have a new email address beginning December 1, 2015. Her new email address is annefmcgrath@atlanticbb.net. She can also be reached at 814-242-6079. Thank you!

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