

## AIA MIDDLE PA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

*PSU Landscape Students Tackle Studio Project*

### Heritage Plaza Redesign Input Sought

Fellow Chapter Members,

As many of you may already know, the third year Landscape Architecture Department from Penn State's University Park campus is currently working on the "re-design" of the Heritage Plaza in downtown Altoona as this semester's studio project

We had a kick-off meeting with all of these students several weeks ago while making their first visit to Altoona and this site. So the next time we are to meet will be April 1, 2016, when they return to present conceptual ideas and gather input from community stakeholders, Penn State advisors and entrepreneurs. Because of the Chapter's existing involvement with the PSU students, we would like to invite you, the members of the Middle PA AIA Chapter to attend this session.

The students' instructor, Ken Tamminga, and the students will be arriving around 9:00 a.m. on April 1, in order to "pin up" their ideas in poster form in the lobby of the Altoona Heritage Discovery Center located on 1425 12th Avenue in Altoona.

At this time, we will have coffee and donuts available for all. We will then proceed into a brief introduction and instructions for stakeholder engagement before immediately moving into your review and interactive discussion with these students about their work and their proposed ideas for this plaza. This will begin at 9:30 a.m. It is our desire to conclude this charrette session by 10:45 to 11:00 a.m. in order to have the students leave at 11:10 a.m. to return to University Park.

We are inviting you to get your input for the continuation of the renaissance and improvements of Altoona and the visioning for a more vibrant residential, retail and student infused downtown environment between Eleventh and Twelfth Avenues in Altoona. Also, please feel free to extend this invitation to anyone who may have an interest in this project.

We appreciate your interest in this project and the students' involvement and hope to see you on April 1.

Rick Karcher, AIA



*Heritage Place, Altoona, PA*

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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  
Brian Endler, AIA  
Stiffler McGraw Architects, LLC  
1731 N. Juniata Street  
P. O. Box 462  
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

### NEXT MID POINTS

Deadline for articles and information for the next newsletter is:

**May 13, 2016**

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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### 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

## President's Message

### Developing Our Professional Relationships

We spend most days working closely with interns, engineers, and contractors, and product reps. Sometimes we all work well together and it is a rewarding experience with successful results. And sometimes it is frustrating and contentious when it seems like we're speaking different languages or even from different planets.

This year we will have several opportunities to spend time with our professional colleagues without the tension of building projects. In April we will have our annual AIA/ASHREA Joint Meeting at Marzoni's in Duncansville. It's an opportunity to have a beer, enjoy a meal, and even pick up an LU. We are working on the details of our summer picnic (it will actually be a picnic again) and reaching out to the Master Builders Association to join us. So far this year we haven't been able to find a workable date to have a joint meeting with Penn State's AIAS chapter but we will try for a fall building tour and dinner as a possible activity. And we will always reach out to our Affiliate members in the building product sales industry to join us whether it is for a Lunch N' Learn LU opportunity, a sponsored event like last years picnic at an Altoona Curve game (thanks Bob, Amber, and Linette), or maybe just to buy those said beers that make our get-togethers just that much better.

Any opportunities we have to reach out to our allied professionals is an opportunity to raise our exposure in our communities, and improve our careers and projects. And the way our events are attended by our membership, it doesn't hurt to have some extra bodies in the room either.

David B. Albright, AIA, Architect

# AIA Associates Corner — 2016 Links

**Jana Brink, Associate AIA**

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## GOOD OF THE ORDER

As architects, we are trained to look at reuse, and how it is an important factor in the world of sustainability. We see it around us in the allied fields and in the product world. We know it is the right thing to do for the environment and keeping our planet alive a little longer, and perhaps even giving a better world (or at the very least how we found it) to the next generation, and the next, and the next ..... A grand scheme is going on now with the abandoned Vallco Shopping Mall in Cupertino, CA. The defunct mall is being turned into 2 million square feet of office space, 680 market-rate and 120 affordable and senior housing apartments, movie theatres, bowling establishment, ice skating facility and more. The roof will be a 30 acre park with a 3.8 mile walking-jogging trail! What a plus to keep it out of the landfill and not have to produce new products to build something new! We may never get the opportunity to work on such a massive project in our lifetime. However, our chances will be better to follow the same line of thinking with smaller projects. Locally, the abandoned historic Churches in Johnstown were reused and repurposed instead of being demolished. The Heritage Plaza reuse in Altoona is now a project for our local PSU landscape design students is being led by some of our AIA members. These are all great small projects that have and are following the same reuse theme. Let's continue to keep up the good work and keep our eyes open for these beneficial reuse projects!

Until next time,

Tom

## **Old House Fair**

The Bellefonte Historical and Cultural Society is hosting the “Old House Fair” program in Bellefonte on April 29-30, 2016 in partnership with the American Philatelic Society and the Centre County Historical Society. The event will be held at the in the historic Match Factory.

The Society contacted us when they realized their Friday speakers could appeal to a design professional educational track. We are working with the Fair to get up to 4 AIA CEU’s approved for the afternoon speakers and the banquet keynote.

We’ll keep the membership posted on the status of AIA CES, but the program is interesting to those involved in community planning and architectural restoration. Visit their site at [www.centrehistory.org/ohf/](http://www.centrehistory.org/ohf/) for more information about the program and registration.

## **AIA Middle PA Committees**

The AIA Middle PA Chapter has several committee positions to AIA PA available at this time.

These committees typically meet by conference call monthly and offer our members an opportunity to be involved with the focus and direction of the state’s agenda and priorities.

Currently open positions are:

Awards

Communications

Government Affairs

Anyone interested in filling these positions or finding out more about the committees please contact: David Albright, [thealbrightstudio@verizon.net](mailto:thealbrightstudio@verizon.net) , 814.944.4664.



**Tuesday, April 12th**

AIA Middle PA Chapter & ASHRAE Johnstown Chapter:  
**Continuing Education Dinner Seminar**

**4:00pm**

*AIA Middle PA Executive Committee Mtg.*

**5:00pm**

*Social Hour*

**6:00pm**

*Buffet Dinner*

**6:45pm**

TBD

**Marzoni's Brick Oven & Brewing Company**

165 Patchway Road  
Duncansville, PA 16835

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

**DON'T DELAY**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS TODAY!!!**





# Complimentary Continuing Education Luncheon



**When:** Tuesday, April 12, 2016  
10:00 AM - 2:15 PM

**Where:** Sheetz Facilities Support Center (Sproul Warehouse)  
351 Sheetz Way  
Claysburg, PA 16625

**Schedule:**

10:00am—10:15am	Arrival
10:15am—11:15am	"Architectural Enhancements with Concrete Masonry" York Building Products (as supplied by Architectural Clay Products)
11:15am—11:30am	Break/Presenter Change
11:30am—12:30pm	"Design Innovations using Fiber Cement in Commercial Construction" Nichiha (as supplied by Architectural Clay Products)
12:30pm—1:15pm	Lunch
1:15pm —2:15pm	"Skyfold Vertical Lift Operable Walls" Modern Fold
2:15pm	Adjourn

**Credits:** Earn up to 3 HSW Learning Units

**Lunch:** Provided by Sheetz, Inc.

**RSVP:** Please contact Tyne Palazzi by Friday, April 8th  
[tpalazzi@sheetz.com](mailto:tpalazzi@sheetz.com) / 814-947-5366



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