



# AIA

## Middle Pennsylvania

August / September 2007

### A Guide to the 2007 Symposium

*Investing in Green –*

*Challenges and Opportunities for Practitioners and Their Clients*

Thursday, October 25 - 7:45 am – 4:00 pm

(With a reception and dinner at the City View, atop the Inclined Plane, from 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm)

Frank J. Pasquerilla Conference Center  
Historic Downtown Johnstown

#### *Save the Dates!*

October 25 – Symposium

October 18 – Last day for registrations

October 11 – Last day for Early Bird registrations

October 9 – Last day to reserve exhibitor space

Last day to reserve Poster space

Mid-September – Registration brochures are mailed out

This year, AIA members can attend the Symposium for just \$160 and Early Birds are just \$140. Non-members can attend for just \$185 – and \$165 if you're an Early Bird. The price includes four presentations, with at least 5 CES credits; continental breakfast, lunch and breaks; four seminars; and the vendor exhibition. It's a value that can't be missed.

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#### **Green Experts to Share Case Studies, Industry Trends**

*Earn at Least 5 CES Credits*

Symposium speakers are gearing up share perspectives on how to make green building pay off for clients, innovative energy efficiency options in building design, and state initiatives that promote green building. An evening presentation at the City View, atop Johnstown's famed Inclined Plane, will highlight legal considerations tied to green building. Our slate of speakers includes:

- ≈ **Maureen Guttman**, AIA, Executive Director, Governor's Green Government Council
- ≈ **Rebecca L. Flores**, AICP, LEED-AP, Executive Director, Green Building Alliance
- ≈ **Matthew Rooke and Dustin Eplee**, BurtHill
- ≈ **Paul Petrilli**, PE, HF Lenz Company
- ≈ **Robert Hughes**, Esq., Ames Gough

Earn CES credits, network and check out the latest industry products and services in one day - at one easy and convenient location!

AIA MIDDLE PENNSYLVANIA SYMPOSIUM



*Continued . . . See "Symposium" Page 3*



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## From the President's Desk

“*We’re All In This Together*” is the title of a song from *High School Musical*, the most popular show for kids on the Disney channel. It could be a catchy theme song for any organization that equates teamwork with making things happen – like the AIA. I can’t get the song out of my head thanks to my kids, but at least it helped me to mention a few ways the AIA is connected between the national, state, and local level.

AIA National has just issued the 2007 Environmental Scan Summary on the following research topics: political, economic, social/cultural, environmental, technological, design and construction, profession, and association/ non-profit. The objective of the report is to inform architectural firms and AIA components about the pulse of the profession for future planning and dialogue. This free download to members is worth reading.

AIA National also informed our chapter of a deposit into our account of approximately \$250 as a share in the second quarter revenue generated by the national use of AIA Contract Documents. All AIA state and local components receive a share based on the number of members in the component. As AIA member architects, we are encouraged to continue to use the AIA Contract Documents.

AIA Pennsylvania was represented at our chapter picnic in July by Executive Director Caroline Boyce and President John Hill, AIA. They are making special efforts to visit each component and touch base face to face. I found my conversation with each of them very meaningful and encouraging as it was my first real opportunity to connect with our state AIA leaders at a personal level.

Locally, our chapter is proud to sponsor the Blair County Arts Hall of Fame induction of the Beezer Brothers (from Altoona) for their contribution to Public Art/ Architecture. More information is included in this newsletter.

Of course, the Symposium is quickly approaching in October as one of the final events of the year that will bring together many of our members, affiliates and vendors. We have also started to plan our 2008 calendar year. It will be another busy year with lots of opportunities to get together.



Symposium, Continued from Page 1

**Vendor Fair Showcases New Products, Services**  
Up to 40 companies representing the latest in architectural and building product innovations will be joining us at the Symposium. Interactive technology, products demos and company giveaways are just a few of the things in store. Be sure to visit the following booths:

- Avail Business Systems
- Centria
- CJL Engineering
- Comfort Supply
- Epic Metals
- Glen-Gery Brick/Ollinger Brick
- Green Building Alliance
- Hite Company
- Mohawk Industries
- Musco Sports Lighting
- Pella Windows
- Pennsylvania Aggregates and Concrete Association (PACA)
- RI Lampus
- Sherwin-Williams
- SupplySource

Booth space is still available and can be reserved, space permitting, through **Tuesday, October 9**. After October 9, it's likely that companies that reserve booth space will not be able to be included in materials that will be distributed at the event.

**For more information or to pass along vendor leads, please contact:**

**Anne McGrath at [annefmcgrath@verizon.net](mailto:annefmcgrath@verizon.net) or (814)539-1317.**

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### **A Call for Posters**

If you're working on a green project, we'd love to hear about it!

We'll provide the space at the Symposium. You just need to provide the boards, drawings and any other information you think would interest your colleagues. Please contact Anne McGrath at [annefmcgrath@verizon.net](mailto:annefmcgrath@verizon.net) or (814)539-1317 by Tuesday, October 9 to let us know if you'd like to be a part of this new Symposium feature.

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### **What's New This Year?**

- A "Passport" to the vendor exhibition, with great prizes awarded to those who visit the most booths. Prizes include a complimentary stay at the newly renovated Bedford Springs Resort and Spa and other great gifts.
- Optional reception and dinner at the City View, via Johnstown's Inclined Plane, an engineering marvel that's been transporting people for more than 115 years.
- Architectural posters and renderings showcasing members' green building projects.
- Online information – visit [www.aiamiddlepa.org](http://www.aiamiddlepa.org) for Symposium updates.

As always, the Symposium is a great way to earn CES credits in a convenient, affordable one-day format. Be sure to be a part of it!

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### **A Special Thank You**



AIA-MPC would like to extend its gratitude to Supply Source and Mohawk for its help in sponsoring this year's event. In addition, we are grateful to AIA-Pittsburgh, ASHRAE and Green Building Alliance (Pittsburgh and Laurel Highlands) for their help in promoting the Symposium. It is our pleasure to work with them.

### **Need Info?? ?**

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



*AIA PA President John Hill, Middle Chapter President Brian Hayes and host L. Robert Kimball*

*Another Beautiful Evening At Klien Immergrun*  
**Middle Chapter Annual Picnic A Success**

Members and guests of the AIA Middle Chapter gathered on a beautiful July evening at Klien Immergrun for the annual Chapter picnic. Once again hosted by Mr. & Mrs. L. Robert Kimball at their beautiful home, more than 40 people enjoyed the social hour. Always a great time to catch up on what's gone on throughout the past year, this year's event was no exception.

Our dinner was served buffet style and featured chicken, salmon, roasted summer vegetables and a mixed berry dessert. Following the dinner, the group was updated on the latest activities of AIA Pennsylvania by President John Hill and Executive Director Caroline Boyce. Chapter President, Brian Hayes, reported on the what the Middle Chapter has accomplished and will be promoting in the coming months. He also briefly spoke of his experiences at this year's AIA National Convention.

The final speaker was Tom Columbus. He brought the group up to speed on this year's Middle Chapter's Symposium which will be held on Thursday, October 25, 2007, at the Pasquerilla Conference Center in Johnstown, Pa.



*Mrs. Kimball relates the interesting history of Klien Immergrun*

Thanks to everyone who made this wonderful event happen!

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

**ARCHITECT SUES DEAD PERSON AND NAMES PA ARCHITECTURAL LICENSING BOARD AS A DEFENDANT ALSO**

This headline has to catch the attention of every registered architect in Pennsylvania. It seems a Fayette County architect has filed a suit to this effect. The reason for the suit, claims the architect, is to focus on the integrity of architectural licensing standards and administrative hearings in Pennsylvania. The architect claims the defendant was not properly licensed to practice architecture in Pennsylvania for the decades he sealed drawings. The use of his architectural seal was approved by the PA Licensing Board. Normally a legal case involving a dead person is dropped at death. However, in this case (details much too long to explain here) the architect is out to show that this case contains special circumstances that are likely to recur in other licensing matters. The case is now under consideration by the State Supreme Court. Please check their website to follow this intriguing story.



## **FORENSIC ARCHITECTURE**

### **ARE YOU THE OWNER OF A MISSING UMBRELLA?**

1. Somebody left a compact umbrella (black plastic handle and green fabric) at the AIA Middle PA picnic in July. The umbrella is being safely held by a Project Manager, Division 1 enthusiast.
2. Are you letting a project Construction Manager write Division 1 General Requirement specification sections on your project? If you are, you're going to get rained on with a devastating thunderstorm of trouble and there is no umbrella big enough or strong enough to keep you from getting "soaked"... Some Architects believe leaving that responsibility to the CM will save them fee.
3. Construction Managers slant Division 1 General Requirements for their benefit.
4. The AIA wrote Division 1 sections to protect the best interests of your client and you.
5. Meet with the Owner and take two copies of AIA Document G612 "Contract Administration, Owner's Instructions to the Architect", Parts A, B, and C. Don't leave until you have all the questions answered. Once they are answered you can then write Division 1 requirements for your project.
6. Part B is five pages on insurance; an Architect is usually not a trained insurance broker so it isn't a good idea to leave the insurance for the project up to a CM who may not be "at risk" at all. Little that we know can be easily explained by our professional liability insurer and the client's insurer.
7. Division 1 covers routine job site cleaning, dumpster provision, snow plowing, and when the building is "closed in"; only the Architect can make this controversial determination. Submittal requirements for the contractor to take your one red marked up copy of a sixteen sheet steel submittal drawing set and make copies for everybody "downstream" won't be put in Division 1 by a CM.
8. As recommended in an earlier article it would be a good idea to read the CM's contract with the Owner before you write Division 1.
9. Finally, if the CM rules and is going to write Division 1 send the Owner a copy of your Division 1 office master specification with AIA G612 filled out and ask that the Owner have all the items therein included in the CM's Division 1. If they don't do what's asked, they will bear the cost of such a decision when something turns sour during construction.

Respectfully Submitted.

Albert S. "Toby" Roberts, Jr. AIA CCS

*The Middle Pa. Chapter AIA welcomes comments and questions regarding this and future "Forensic Architecture" articles. Please direct your thoughts to Toby at L. Robert Kimball and Associates, Ph. 814 472-7700 Ext. 342. Better yet, email Toby at [tobyroberts@lrkimball.com](mailto:tobyroberts@lrkimball.com).*



**Bloch Drama**  
By Gisèle Lewis

During a recent trip to Kansas City, Missouri, I visited the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art and its recent addition, the Bloch Building, by Steven Holl Architects. It is truly a state-of-the-art piece, one that fairly represents many of today's architectural trends. Is it enough for a museum to be an exciting building? The August issue of Architectural Record features an enjoyable article that explores these issues in depth; however, strolling through the connecting structures gave me an experience I had not expected when reading about it.

Most obviously, the new addition contrasts immensely from the existing museum. (Photo 1) Even though I had seen photos of it, I was surprised as I approached it. From a distance, a crisp white mountain range appears beside the old classical building, as startling and new as though it grew up overnight. The staccato geometric forms of the addition awaken the viewer's mind and curiosity. On closer inspection, the material lacks the glowing essence it seems to exude from afar. Instead, the tempered low-iron glass cladding appears plastic and milky.



Photo 1  
Through the clerestory of the new addition, the classical forms of the older museum wing make an appearance.

Once inside, diffused natural light illuminates everything beautifully. From the lobby, wide, white-walled corridors narrow and angle into perspective-enhanced views as only Holl can achieve. Monolithic columns occasionally step down amid

these boulevards like the legs of dinosaurs, implying a strength more powerful than the graceful plaster walls imply. I say graceful, and yet there is something almost violent in the way wall, stair and ramp lines seem to collide and intersect along the path from lobby into the first building. (Photo 2) The combined effect is one of moody dynamism that tempts the viewer to walk on into the belly of the addition.



Photo 2  
Leading away from the lobby, lines and forms collide in dramatic perspectives.

Once among the galleries, architecture recedes and clear, soft light allows the works to step forward boldly. Especially well integrated are the displays of Donald Judd, Kiki Smith, and, closest to my heart, the sculptures of Isamu Noguchi.

In the Noguchi Sculpture Court, for example, Holl succeeds in blurring the lines between inside and outside by continuing interior flooring materials onto the outside patio, separated by extensive sliding glass doors. Although all of Noguchi's work remains inside, the viewer sees them with both interior backdrops as well as those of the grass and trees beyond. Thanks to Holl's design, Noguchi's work becomes significant in multiple contexts.

Steven Holl Architects has created a building-sculpture that represents modern art on a grand, almost environmental scale. The building accomplishes its goal without overwhelming the visitor; it invites the viewer with exciting forms, then proudly showcases the art within it. I recommend a visit to anyone traveling to Kansas City.

*Photos by David B. Lewis*

**CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS**

Remember —Brian L. Mayko, Associate AIA, is the Continuing Education Registrar for the Middle Chapter. Don't forget to get your information to Brian to make sure that all of your credits are counted.

**HEY!! LET'S STAY CONNECTED**

Please remember to make sure that Dave Reasinger receives any changes and/or additions in your mailing address and contact information including email addresses. Also, please make sure that Dave receives information for new members in the Middle Chapter. **Thanks!**



## THINKING INSIDE THE BOX – Dues Paying Members

By Moses D. F. Ling, PE, RA

This summer, I had an opportunity to travel to Asia with the idea that I would look at the engineering systems of some of the world's tallest buildings. Surprisingly, what I learned was not necessarily what I had anticipated. Lessons learned:

1. Don't travel to Southeast Asia in the month of August unless you enjoy steam bath conditions. One is likely to be wet from the heat and humidity, the rain, and the typhoons.
2. I did not fall in love with the buildings with the slickest design. Rather, the tall buildings that earned my affection were ones built to benefit the local population. While other buildings are protected by armed security guards with sub-machine guns, Taipei 101 is a wonderful open vibrant commercial center. Petronas Tower is connected to a symphony hall and a convention center. They actually promoted the national symphony orchestra through this project. What a great idea, building unselfishly to serve more than just the primary purpose. A building can raise national image, bring new technology, and serve the local public.
3. The United States is not necessarily revered for our technology anymore. There was once a time when U.S. architects and engineers were called on to design buildings abroad. This paradigm is no longer true in this part of the world. They can do it themselves. A 70-stories building is about to go up in Kuala Lumpur designed completely by local talent. The Malaysian people capitalized on the experience when they built Petronas Towers. The Petronas design team was required to absorb a number of Malaysian architects and engineers during the design stages. The technologies transferred made it possible to rely only on local professionals for their current project.
4. All the diesel Mercedes taxi cabs are gone in Hong Kong. In their place are natural gas powered Toyota Camerries. The government subsidized very taxi \$40,000 HKD or roughly \$5,000 USD to convert to natural gas. Imagine that in New York City - all green Yellow Cabs!
5. While I was in China, the story of the Mattel toy recall broke. While U.S. news reports focused on the controversy, the details of the story were not explained. Mattel has employees on the ground in China buying directly from these local manufacturers. While the purchasing arm has reached clear across the ocean, their quality control department was asleep at home. We should recognize the gap between consumer expectations of this country and those of other parts of the world. When U.S. companies ask people living in a totally different paradigm to produce our goods, is it reasonable to first bridge this gap? They should first walk a mile in their shoes and uncover the potential differences in expectations.
6. One may want to ask, if the US companies are buying from lower cost overseas vendors and selling the goods on the U.S. market, who benefits? The producers in Asia are being squeezed hard. The department stores in the US have trouble making ends meet. Who benefits in this economy? The answer seems to be the low inflation rate in the U.S..
7. What is U.S. exporting? KFC, McDonalds and Starbucks. Advertisements for 24 hours McDonalds can be found on the public buses in Guangzhou. Yes, I went in the McDonalds, but more out of curiosity. I discovered Mac Cafés in Hong Kong serve tropical fruit smoothies and specialty sandwiches. Why are we served mainly heart-stopping burgers in the States?

Sometime taking one's head out of the sand is scary.

## 2007 Tentative Calendar

### Sept

19 Lecture, Graham Wyatt, Partner at Robert A.M. Stern in New York, "Zeitgeist and Genius Loci on Campus", 6:00 pm, PSU Palmer Museum Lip con Auditorium. AIA/CEU available

### Oct

25 2007 Symposium: Green Building Alliance, Pasquerilla Conference Center, Johnstown, PA

TBA PA Builds: Project Submissions

### Nov

13-14 AIA PA: Leadership Conference & Architect's Day, Harrisburg, PA

### Nov/Dec

TBA PSU/AIAS – Lecture & Election of Officers, Penn State University, SALA Building

### Dec

TBA Retreat: 2008 Planning Session

## AIA Associates Corner

Here are your links in 2006

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**DON'T FORGET!!!**  
Deadline for articles for the next newsletter is November 23, 2007

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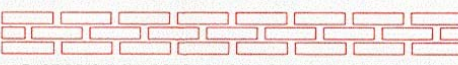
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