



AIA

Middle Pennsylvania

December 2007 / January 2008

2007 Symposium is a Hit with Members, Vendors

If you missed *Investing in Green – Challenges and Opportunities for Practitioners and Clients*, you missed one of the chapter's most successful Symposiums to date. And that's coming straight from our guests. In fact, nearly 50% of those who completed our post-event survey said it was much better than past Symposiums!

Fifty-four architects, engineers and related professionals attended the event, a slight increase from 2003, the last time the chapter hosted a symposium on its own. The topic and speaker line-up also attracted attention from the local media – reporters and camera crews from the *Tribune-Democrat*, WJAC-TV and WWCP-TV/WATM-TV covered the event.

The topic of the Symposium resonated with guests, with nearly all of those who responded to the post-event survey indicating that they want the chapter to continue to offer pertinent and substantial presentations on green-related issues.

Guests made solid suggestions to improve the Symposium in 2009. They would like to tour facilities, have more time to talk with exhibitors, and see a few more panel discussions or other interactive sessions. Planning will soon get underway for 2009 – we will be sure to keep you updated on our progress.

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Speakers Provide Solid Overview of “Going Green”



Brian Hayes, Middle Chapter President, Introduces speaker to start Symposium



Symposium attendees wait for Incline to ride to City View for evening session

Our thanks go out to our speakers who helped make the 2007 Symposium such a success. More than 50 guests heard from leaders in the field, including:

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

The speakers highlighted several green innovations, including advanced energy analysis, zero energy buildings, and how to anticipate and manage green-related risk management issues.

(See Symposium, Page 4)



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From the President's Desk

The Officers met in December for a “retreat” to review as many topics as possible in preparation for the next year. Here are some of the highlights of the retreat:

- Our chapter is fiscally well managed with a healthy budget and that’s always a good thing. As an organization it enables us make a difference.
- The Symposium is a very worthwhile event that generates revenue and relationships.
- PA Builds continues to be a great free opportunity for firms to publish their work and advertise to the general public.
- The chapter’s contribution to PAC is improving.
- The chapter’s website is well maintained and working as our source for information as expected. We are looking into adding the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes on our website for the membership to see.
- The chapter’s newsletter is redesigned, named, and about to be released.

Some of our goals for 2008 are to recognize new members, recruit and develop future chapter leaders, renew our 1992 membership directory, and cultivate our relationships with AIAS, AIA PA, and AIA National.

Leading by Doing at the 2007 Solar Decathlon

Everyone says that students hold the key to the future, but this month they proved it at the steps of the Nation’s Capital. College and university-led teams from across the United States, Puerto Rico, and Europe participated in the U. S. Department of Energy’s third Solar Decathlon Competition (previous competitions were held in 2002 and 2005). The teams were in Washington, D.C. to prove that not only is the solar age upon us, but that the technologies are applicable and viable today. The challenge was to design, finance, construct, and operate the most energy-efficient solar powered homes imaginable. Twenty (20) teams, including Penn State, transported their homes to Washington, DC and reconstructed them in a “Solar Village” on the National Mall, open to the public October 12-20, 2007. Although the final count is not in, it is anticipated that over 200,000 people visited the homes.

(See Leading, Page 7)



BUSINESS

CENTS:

Occasional Comments on the Business of Design

This is a continuation of the last issue when we talked selecting a landscape contractor to update the plant material at our house. With the contractor selected we now moved to final design and construction. What did we like and what could have been better?

The contractor was extremely accommodating in taking our preferences and incorporating them in his design. In one area we went through three different plant selections before coming up with a design that was a go. We were given the opportunity to see plant material, both at the nursery and in real landscape settings. And the contractor was careful to adjust the price, both up and down, as we made changes to the original proposal. We felt that the final design fit our site and suited our personal preferences with plant material selected to do well in its new environment.

On the construction day, the owner/salesperson, was at our house, both to supervise and help with the installation. He offered to replace one of our existing mature shrubs that was damaged when the largest tree was moved into place. Five of the smaller plants were replaced as promised when they died in the Fall. We had every reason to believe that we got both good design and value for our dollar.

What could have been better? The cost was always stated as a lump sum; I would have appreciated a detailed breakdown that adds up to the lump sum. Replacing some plants that died was slow. We were just about to call back [for the third time] when we had a message on the answering machine that the plants would be replaced the next day.

BUSINESS CENTS: [1] Do whatever you can to help your customer understand what you are doing and why it will benefit him/her. I.e. scope of work, design, function and how it benefits the end user. [2] Call backs are always an issue; let your customer know that you are working on it even when you can't promise a specific fix or date. [3] Make sure that the call backs are resolved before you close out the project.

J. Richard Fruth, AIA, Public Relations Officer

Anumba named new head of architectural engineering

Chimay Anumba has been named the new head of the Department of Architectural Engineering.

Anumba hails from Loughborough University in the United Kingdom. He takes over in January, replacing Richard Behr, who returns to the faculty to serve as the inaugural Charles and Elinor Matts professor in architectural engineering.

At Loughborough University, Anumba was a professor of construction engineering and informatics. He also served as the founding director of the Centre for Innovative and Collaborative Engineering and director of research for the university's civil and building engineering department.

His professional experience includes working as a construction site engineer, design engineer and senior engineer.

Anumba's research interests include construction engineering, advanced engineering informatics, concurrent engineering, knowledge management, collaborative communications and project management.

He holds a bachelor's degree with honors in building from the University of Jos in Nigeria and a doctoral degree in civil engineering from the University of Leeds in the United Kingdom. Anumba also holds a doctorate of science degree from the Loughborough University.

In 2007 he was awarded an honorary doctorate from Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands. Anumba has served as a visiting professor at a number of universities, including Hanyang University in Korea, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Stanford University, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Chongqing University in China and Covenant University in Nigeria.



ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2008

At its meeting on December 20, 2007 in Tyrone, PA the Executive Committee nominated the following persons to serve as officers for 2008:

President:	Brian Hayes	Treasurer:	Doug Henry	AIA PA Board Member/	
Vice President:	Rick Cyman	Immediate Past		Representative:	Fred Fernsler
Secretary:	Daniel Roe	President	Fred Fernsler	Associate Board Member:	Dave Reasinger

SYMPOSIUM *(Continued from Page 1)*

“Exhibitor Passport” Makes Debut at 2007 Symposium

For the first time ever, this year’s Symposium featured an Exhibitor’s Passport that helped boost traffic for companies exhibiting at the event.

Here’s how it worked . . . guests received a Passport listing each exhibitor, contact information and a brief description of the services the company provided. The passport was “stamped” after a guest visited an exhibitor’s booth and talked with company representatives. Guests who visited the most booths were eligible for great prizes, including \$50 Sheetz gift cards, *Fallingwater – Frank Lloyd Wright’s Romance with Nature* and an overnight stay at the recently renovated Bedford Springs Resort and Spa.

Exhibiting companies that responded to our post-event survey gave the

program a healthy “thumbs-up.” In fact, several noted that it gave them the opportunity to talk with more guests compared to past events.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Passport program. Look for it in 2009!

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Our Thanks to Exhibitors

Twenty-seven companies joined us at this year’s Symposium, representing the latest in architectural and building product innovations. Thanks to each and every one of them for supporting our event. If you’d like a list of our exhibitors, please contact Event Coordinator Anne McGrath.

In the absence of a regular meeting of the chapter in November 2007, the Executive Committee is calling a special meeting of the chapter for the purpose of electing officers for 2008, to take place at the chapter Program Meeting on January 16, 2008 in the Stuckeman Family Building, home of the School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, on the campus of the Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA.

Additional nominations will be received by the chairman of the election at the meeting; providing that the person nominated has given permission to be nominated and has agreed, if elected, to serve in that position.

The following additional appointments have been made to the Executive Committee for 2008:

2 nd Vice President	[vacant]
AIA PA Board Alternate	[vacant]
Assistant Secretary	Adam Fernsler
Assistant Treasurer	????
Program North	????
Program South	Tim Hoffman
Newsletter Editor	Dee Columbus
2009 Symposium Chair	Tom Columbus
Continuing Education	
Registrar	Brian Mayko
Membership Chair	Dan Roe
Government Affairs	
Chair	Dwight Knouse
Webpage Committee	
Chairperson	Anna Childe
Public Relations Officer/	
Newsletter	Dick Fruth

Years of Outstanding Service Comes To End
DALLAS MILLER STEPS DOWN

After long and productive service to the AIA Middle Chapter, and AIA members in PA, Dallas Miller retired from his AIA PA Board Position.

The reins will be taken over by a quite capable AIA Member, Fred Fernsler, etc.



FORENSIC ARCHITECTURE

The Devil's In The Details!

PRIDE IN AUTHORSHIP

Computers and the software duplication tool, “cut and paste” have allowed those producing construction documents to slip into a dangerous and lax attitude about how that copied detail fits into the current job.

Oh! we mentally say to ourselves, don't worry, Joe did that detail for "XYZ" job and I didn't hear that it caused any trouble during construction . . . because it allegedly didn't cause any trouble, it is still crucial to see if the pasted detail fits into this job and is biddable and buildable.

In the old days drafters had to go look at adjacent construction to be able to draw the detail. Today we cut and paste Joe's detail. Mostly, no time is expended to see if the detail fits into the current job.

It's no wonder that fewer and fewer drafters feel good about putting their name on the title block; they know in their hearts that they really didn't do the work.

Even initials are wonderful if you have them on the drawing; when there is a question during bidding or construction, you get the quickest answer. Quick answers preserve the Architect's fee.

Let's analyze an imaginary single ply roof membrane edge fascia detail by Joe that has been cut and pasted to your job. Although both jobs have a roof slope of 1/4" per foot by code, it is twice as far from the roof edge to the roof drains on your job. The same height wood blocking won't work. If the blocking is too low the top of wall height is going to be too low also.

Because you didn't realize that the cut and pasted detail would not fit, you will get to be the author of a change order you will have to explain to the owner. How many owners won't realize that their Architect has made a costly error?

Recently, two drawings were viewed by the author; they each had, "Drawn By:" H. Smith in the title block.

Extra time was spent to see if the details fit; every single detail was coordinated and the project enjoyed smooth sailing. It pays to spend this extra time to assure a successful project.

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.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

ARCHITECTS BALANCING ACT WITH CODE OFFICIALS AND CLIENTS

The new State-Wide Building Code has had major impact on construction projects in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Architects support a State-wide Building Code due to its inherent nature of protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public that spend time in buildings. Dealing with the code is not an easy task, particularly with an existing building that is going through rehabilitation and needs to deal with the new Code existing building issues. It is even a harder task when dealing with a "non-certified" building (no current Occupancy Permit) and trying to convince the client of not only the construction costs that will need to be incurred, but also the fee needed to address all the issues that have to be dealt with to obtain a legally occupied building. There is no easy answer or silver bullet to satisfy the client in these situations. Each building is different, and each Code Official (although using the same Code) can interpret items differently. The Code will always need to be satisfied, even if it may, unfortunately, "break" the project.



OTHER THOUGHTS ON MANAGING YOUR SOFTWARE LICENSES

Sometimes people frown on the Business Software Alliance [BSA], saying they harass business owners and threaten legal action and costly fees to settle with them. But basically the BSA is looking out for Copyrighted material for its member software companies. These are the same laws that oversee and govern your copyrighted design sketches and construction documents. Let's say you created a highly efficient LEED green building that won major awards and would be on the verge of earning you a noble prize, until someone "pirated" the entire design documents and sold them for mass production. Now someone else is earning a living off of your ideas. This is the same principal as using illegal software from a software vendor.

BSA helps business owners manage their software licenses. Volume purchasing through Adobe or Microsoft will allow monitoring of the licenses purchased through a web interface with them. Microsoft's licensing web interface will allow you to download the actual product with activation codes. This is a very convenient bonus for purchasing licensing through a volume licensing representative.

OEM or original equipment manufacturer licensing is probably the most widely used platform for purchasing software. OEM is when your new PC is sent with the software preinstalled, like the Operating System and Microsoft Office. The biggest myth with OEM licensing is that it is transferable to another machine. OEM licensing really stays with the specific PC and gets disposed of with that PC. For example, you purchase a new desktop with Windows Vista Business and Office 2007 preinstalled saving \$300 dollars. But two years later the machine is being 'retired' or 'donated', and you say "I own Office 2007 already why not install that product on the new machine rather than replacing with new bundled Office software?" Wrong! The fine print on the OEM software license states that the software stays with the PC in which it was shipped; that savings up front may not be lost down the road.

It might be a little wise to wait till the need for multiple licenses occurs and look at the volume open model. Consider purchasing through a volume open representative with the software manufacture or licensed software partner. Most volume licensing starts with as few as five licenses and you might be able to mix upgrades and full purchases. This gives you the ability to monitor your licensing purchase history online through the vendor, plus getting a significant savings over retail pricing.

*Aaron Sturniolo, Director of Information Technology
Hayes Large Architects, Harrisburg*

**DON'T FORGET!!!
Deadline for articles for the next
newsletter is February 29, 2008**



LEADING *(Continued from Page 2)*

Solar energy was the name of the game! To succeed in the competition the homes had to produce enough energy from the sun to run a household and to power an electric vehicle. Teams were evaluated in 10 areas including architecture, engineering, market viability, heating and cooling, water heating, appliances, and lighting. Technische Universität Darmstadt proved that Germany is at the fore when it comes to Solar Energy. The team won both the architecture and engineering subjective contests and took the first-place trophy in the 2007 Solar Decathlon. Two-time returning Contestant University of Maryland took second place with LEAFHouse, a home that “evokes the spirit of the Chesapeake Bay area.” Although Santa Clara University lagged behind for much of the competition they excelled in engineering, ultimately pulling ahead of Penn State to finish in the third place position. Penn State placed fourth (finishing a mere 4 points behind Santa Clara) with its debut entry, MorningStar Pennsylvania, receiving 975 out of a possible 1200 points.

The MorningStar home takes its name from the Cheyenne people and the long-standing design/build relationship between Penn State AIHI and the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation in Lama Deer Montana. In fact, always up for a challenge, the Penn State Team built two houses for the Solar Decathlon – MorningStar Pennsylvania, the competition home and MorningStar Montana, a more affordable marketable prototype. This effort earned the team 3rd place overall in the Market Viability contest of the competition!

The MorningStar is designed as the “house next door” that can be fully integrated into the character of a community. The concept combines the economic advantages of prefabrication with the merits of site-specific construction. The team developed a Hybrid Prefabricated/Site-Built system

that articulates three key areas of the home: Technical Core, Living Space, and Breezeway. This hybrid system allows the more sensitive technical components of the home – plumbing, mechanical systems, etc.- to be factory built and shipped to site. The Living Space can be reasonably customized depending on site, climate and available labor conditions. The Technical Core and living space are connected by the home’s Breezeway, the “lungs” of the home, allowing the movement of air and people. MorningStar Pennsylvania uses Pennsylvania based Murus Structurally Integrated Panels (SIPs) for the highly insulated walls and roof. The Living Space of the home uses materials symbolic of Pennsylvania industry, including reclaimed Pennsylvania Black Slate for cladding, recycled Pennsylvania Steel, Pennsylvania hardwoods, and a Milk bottle Wall representative of the state’s dairy industry.

The Solar Decathlon competition is, first and foremost, about energy. The PSU team pursued advanced, high-performance engineering systems for the 2007 competition. The team’s approach is to reduce loads via conservation and efficiency, effectively capture and use solar energy and reclaim waste energy. Integrated cutting-edge mechanical, electrical and photovoltaic systems include four separate building integrated photovoltaic (BIPV) arrays powering both AC and DC home systems, appliances and lighting. Other interesting components include a radiant floor heating system, evacuated tube solar-thermal collectors, and a Direct Digital Control (DDC) system. Occupant feedback systems, including an “Energy Dashboard,” help actively educate and involve occupants in everyday decisions such as the appropriate timing of water-intensive or high-energy tasks to reduce peak loads.

After the Solar Decathlon competition the MorningStar homes will continue to serve the spirit of the competition by advancing and promoting the use

of residential-scaled solar energy systems. MorningStar Pennsylvania will be permanently located on Penn State’s main campus at the Center for Sustainability. The home will serve as the Hybrid Renewable Energy Systems (HyRES) laboratory, and will be used for teaching, research, and outreach programming. MorningStar Montana will serve as a lab and a residence for visiting faculty of Chief Dull Knife College and as a model for future solar homes that will be built through Penn State’s American Indian Housing Initiative, a collaborative project between Penn State, Chief Dull Knife College, and the Northern Cheyenne Housing Authority.

I am proud to have been a faculty advisor to the Penn State Solar Decathlon Team. The motivation and dedication of the students was awe-inspiring and the Team’s place in the top five is well deserved. Thank you to all who contributed to the project and to the Team’s success. Come and visit MorningStar this spring in its temporary location off Park Avenue next to the Visitors Center on the Penn State University Park Campus. For additional information about the Penn State’s MorningStar Home, or to contribute to the project, visit www.solar.psu.edu; To learn more about the Solar Decathlon and the other teams who participated go to www.solardecathlon.org.

*Lisa D. Iulo,
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2008 Quarterly Calendar

Jan

16 "Highlights" of changes on the new AIA Conventional Family of Contract Documents

Meet Mr. Anthony S. Potter of Powell, Trackman, Logan, Carrie, and Lombardo P.C. Harrisburg PA. and the President of AIAS Mr. Joseph Douglas Bevins

Feb

20-23 Grassroots Conference, Grand Hyatt Hotel, Washington, DC

March

26 Joint CSI Northcentral Pennsylvania Chapter, Raised Floor Systems, E. Williamsport Penn College; Ted Strosser and Robert Lash Coordinating

AIA Associates Corner

Here are your links in 2006

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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!**

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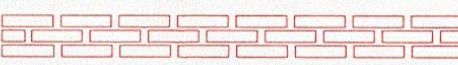
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