

## Message From the President

Brian W. Hayes, AIA

Candy canes and happy holiday banners decorated the light posts in downtown Hollidaysburg in time for the Halloween parade in late October. In turn, it's "Happy New Year" for the AIA Middle Pennsylvania chapter as November marks our transition of new officers and conclusion to the year's events. The year will end at the AIA PA's Leadership Conference in Harrisburg on November 19, 2008. One item on the agenda is for each local chapter to report on highlights of the past year.

Here is a snap shot of our actions from the past two-year term including items still in the works:

- Budget annually to send representation to participate in Grassroots and the National Convention - this is a great experience and enlightening to connect with the AIA at the state and national level
- Hold an annual picnic – this is one of the most well attended events of the year
- Tour buildings under construction or recently completed – building tours are very popular and interesting to our members
- Initiate meetings in Williamsport – this action reaches out to our larger geographic region and Penn College of Technology Architecture Program
- Publish member projects in PA Business Central newspaper – this gives opportunity for all of our members to publish their work
- Hold bi-annual symposium – this is a big event for vendors
- Hold annual joint meets with local chapters of ASHREA and CSI – we are coordinating events more closely with CSI since we share members
- Use website and newly designed electronic newsletter to share information – we are looking to add regular columns on topics such as LEED and the building code
- Hold hands-on construction seminars with local Carpenter's Union – this year's seminar on fasteners was postponed but still possible in the future
- Build relationships with Penn State Architecture Program - we sponsor AIAS Forum, Night with the Pros, meetings on campus at architecture building, and sponsor the high school architectural summer camp
- Looking to memorialize deceased members through design competitions with students – maybe we will work look to elementary or high school students to show their skills
- Looking to collaborate with Habitat for Humanity – president elect, Rick Cyman of Sheetz, is contacting Habitat on behalf of both Sheetz and our chapter
- Looking to purchase ARE study materials for the benefit of associate members – this is one of the things the chapter is doing to provide more tangible benefits to members.

In the spirit of looking forward, such as the candy cane back drop for Halloween, please join me in welcoming Rick Cyman as 2009 President of the AIA Middle Pennsylvania Chapter. I am okay with the moment and even earning the title of Past President.

## IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 Message From The President**
- 2 Business Cents**
- 3 For the Good of the Order**

## NEXT MID POINTS

Deadline for articles and information for the next newsletter is:

**January 9, 2009**

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:

David E. Reasinger, Associate AIA  
Pennsylvania State University  
1113 Physical Plant Building  
University Park, PA 16802  
P: 814.863.3868  
F: 814.865.3737  
[der19@psu.edu](mailto:der19@psu.edu)

## 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 and Advertising
- Mission Statement
- Project Photos

---

## Business Cents

Occasional comments on the business of design by J. Richard Fruth, AIA

### WHEN CAN WE ALL JUST GET ALONG

I have been working with a building owner on a small project [big project for them] and have experienced again the 'cold war' between the designers and builders.

No sooner had we put out a set of plans for bids than the builders and vendors were telling the customer what was wrong with the plans. 'This is the worst set of documents that I have seen.' 'This is too complicated.' 'The system will never work.' 'Why am I responsible for patching and painting?' We heard this from both contractors and from competing sales representatives [even from the same manufacturer]. I have heard this time and time again in my career.

Why the cold war? Look at the landscape from the other side. How many times do we say the same thing about contractors? 'They are just looking for change orders.' 'They shop all of their subcontractors and don't care at all about quality.' And so on and so on.

It so happened that while this was going on, I went to a football game with a classmate who went over to the dark side. His company moved him from managing their design staff to managing their newly acquired construction management staff. So how did he, an architect, do this?

He had one simple rule: emphasize the positives not the negatives! When he did this he found out that most builders bring a lot to the table. They have good ideas. Look around at our work. It isn't going to happen without the builder; we need to find a way to get along. If you have attended any of the AIA Middle Pennsylvania workshops with the Carpenters Union in Gallitzin, you quickly found out that the young apprentices were learning quite a lot about the practical means to build correctly and profitably. As they advance in the construction field they bring that same knowledge to the construction process. I think that contractors, almost always, can add something of value to the final design product. We need to look at our contractor and vendor friends and **praise the positive in public** before we discuss our concerns in private.

**BUSINESS CENTS:** Learn to praise the builders and vendors on your project, and they may just learn to give you a little well deserved praise too.

---

## AIA Associates Corner — 2008 Links

### **Denise E. Thompson, Assoc. AIA**

AIA PA Regional Associate Director

Francis Cauffman Foley Hoffmann Architects Ltd  
thompson@fcfh-did.com

### **Seth H. Wentz , Associate AIA**

AIA PA Associate Director

lscdesign  
swentz@lscdesign.com

David E. Reasinger Assoc. AIA  
PA Associate Committee Member  
der19@psu.edu

Arthur Sheffield  
PA Coordinator, Intern Development Program (IDP)  
idp@aia.org

---

## For the Good of the Order

Comments on the Profession of Architecture by Tom Columbus, AIA

Don't look now, but IBC revision 2009 and LEED revised version 2009 are just about upon us. International Code Council Members have received their notice that the new triennial version of the IBC family of Codes is available for ordering with delivery to occur in March 2009. As we know, the Pennsylvania Legislature worded the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code to automatically adopt any IBC triennial updates. Per a recent memo from Middle Chapter Member Dallas Miller, a new Uniform Construction Code Review and Advisory Council will establish the extent of adoption of the new Code items. Another new face to work with will be the USGBC's LEED 2009 updated version for the certification of "green buildings". This document is scheduled to be published in January 2009 and is to be used for new construction certification.

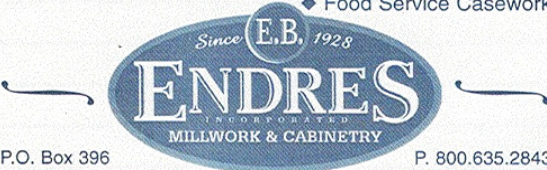
Stay tuned for any programs to be offered by the Middle Chapter in discussing these new standards.

---

**SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR ADVERTISERS**

Todd R. Speck  
Vice-President


- ◆ Architectural Millwork
- ◆ Wood-Mode Kitchens
- ◆ Food Service Casework



P.O. Box 396  
Huntingdon, PA 16652  
www.ebendres.com  
e-mail todd@ebendres.com

P. 800.635.2843  
P. 814.643.1860 x105  
Fax 814.643.1471  
Cell 814.386.3570


YOUR ADVERTISEMENT HERE!



FACE BRICK - SANDSTONE - GLAZED TILE - GLAZED BRICK

*Ollinger*  
**BRICK AND TILE SUPPLIES**

827 PLEASANT VALLEY BOULEVARD  
ALTOONA, PA 16602



SALES REPRESENTATIVE

HOME:  
OFFICE: 943-0321

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT HERE!



Truck & Trailer Repairs • Lube Center  
Metal Fabrication • Dump Body Specialists

**LOREN KEITH**  
124 Repair Road  
Duncansville, PA 16635  
24 Hour Service

Phone (814) 696-6008  
Fax (814) 696-5011  
Home (814) 693-6383

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT HERE!

Please call Dee Columbus at 814-749-7952 to place  
an advertisement here.