



KANSAS MASONRY INDUSTRIES COUNCIL

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President's Message C. Stan Peterson

Here it is June already. AIA Grassroots has come and gone, AIA National Convention has come and gone – time does fly! AIA Kansas Committees have also been busy on many fronts.

The AIA Kansas Conference Committee is one that has been very active. They have the theme, graphics, honors jury, speakers, new movies and much more completed or in the process. Watch for their report as Trudy secured a grant for a great speaker for us. The conference dates are October 9-11, 2008 and it is in Wichita. Please put this on your calendar now as the Wichita Architects are planning as really good conference. One last conference thought – as you meet with or visit with material suppliers and/or contractors, consultants, etc. ask them if they are exhibiting at the AIA Kansas Conference this year. Give them the dates, ask them to email you if they are going to be there so you can pass it on to other Architects and tell them to go to www.aiaks.org or call Trudy or Carol for more information at 800-444-9853. Remember our exhibitors are a major funding source for our programs.

The Committee on the Environment has also been active. They have held a couple of lunch and learns (of which I have missed) and we have the LEED Workshop coming June 20, 2008 in Topeka. The Committee has a goal to get 25 to 35% of our membership LEED Certified this year and each year thereafter until we approach 100% - Great Goal! Hope to see you at the workshop. I know that Wichita and Kansas City have also had workshops.

Watch for the new web site. Trudy and Carol have been hard at work on it with a launch soon. I can say, with the recent weather we have been having, I do breathe a sigh of relief after each storm exits Kansas and we have little damage. It is devastating to anyone who has experienced the damage but the committee has not been called on – YET!

A special thank you to the Government Affairs Committee for their hard work during this legislative session and to Trudy for being our face at the Capitol. Check out their report for the positive results that support AIA Kansas and AIA National's previous newsletters at <http://www.aiaks.org/members/resource/>.

Have a great summer, safe travels and no severe storms.

LEED Exam Workshop June 20th

AIA Kansas presents: LEED ® for New Construction (LEED-NC) Exam Workshop - Preparation for the accreditation exam for: Architects, Engineers, Contractors, Facility Managers, Interior Designers and other building professionals, Friday, June 20 from 9:30 am -5:30 pm - 7 Hours Sustainable Credit.

Cost \$80 for AIA Members and \$100 Non-members. Materials: LEED NC Reference Guide, Third Edition and highlighter highly recommended! Purchase book at www.usgbc.org (suggest two-weeks lead time). For more

information go to <http://www.aiaks.org/members/education/members/education/leed%20flyer> to register, go to <http://www.aiaks.org/leed>

Blueprint for America - our gift to the nation

As you you will recall, last year AIA embarked on a series of outreach program to connect architects and their communities. To see our contribution "Kansas Design Team" - Assisting Communities in Finding Solutions to Physical, Social, Environmental, and Economic Problems to to <http://www.aia.org/blueprint/AIAKansas.cfm> and you can see AIA Topeka at <http://www.aia.org/blueprint/AIATopeka.cfm>. To see how other AIA components responded to the challenge, just go to the browse component by "state" and click on a project.

WHAT DOES A QUALIFICATIONS BASED SELECTION (QBS) FACILITATOR REALLY DO? by G. David Comstock, P.E.

I started working for ACEC of Kansas and AIA Kansas a little over a year ago on a part-time basis to help promote the use of QBS when hiring consulting engineers and architects. I was intrigued by the opportunity because for over half of my 39 year career with KDOT I had been closely involved with and a believer in the use of QBS to obtain the best value for the expenditure of the public's dollars.

Some of the efforts that I have undertaken to promote the use of QBS have been to attend two APWA conferences and one Kansas Association of School Board's conference. I have visited with dozens of folks and handed out hundreds of brochures at these conferences. I have attended individual meetings with the City of Wichita, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) of Kansas City, and have given one presentation to a consulting engineering firm.

I often refer to what I do as "missionary" work, as there seem to be an unending supply of folks who could benefit from the use of QBS if they could be convinced that they would get a much better value for their project than they do by taking low bid. Typically, a member firm will notify ACEC or AIA of someone asking for bids or quotations on a project which would benefit from using QBS. ACEC/AIA notify me of the owner, I contact them by phone and/or email and share information and offer to visit with them and/or their council/commission if they wish. These visits are followed up with a letter sending brochures and more information. A quick scan of my files indicates that there have been about 19 of these contacts made in the past year.

Sadly, with one exception, no one has asked me to come and present to their council/commission or themselves, but I would judge that perhaps half of the folks are "believers" in QBS, but are being "required" to use some other method or believe in the particular case that QBS is not required or the best approach. In some cases, they are looking for information or reinforcement to help educate their constituency.

Should you have any suggestions for improving our efforts or wish to have someone contact a client, please do not hesitate to contact your ACEC of Kansas or AIA Kansas office. (Editor: David has done a great job educating public owners about QBS, please let AIA Kansas know when you receive solicitations for bids and we will have Dave contact them.)

Kansas Architectural Foundation Scholarships

Mark Jacob Long, from El Dorado, Kansas, will be entering his fifth and final year of studies in the professional architecture program at Kansas State University in the fall of 2008. In June 2002, Mark decided to follow his dream of becoming an architect and enrolled at Kansas State University where he made the Dean's List. Mark credits his enthusiasm for architecture to having spent many, many hours over many years working at his father's side in a family-run residential contracting business. It was there that he acquired the fullest

possible exposure to all of the constructional aspects of practical yet quality building design. Throughout all his design studios, his instructors uniformly note, Mark has maintained a standard of work that consistently produced designs notable for this same eminently "build-able" yet aesthetically pleasing character.

Gary Daniel Gensch, known to family and friends as Dan, is a Wichita native who is about to enter his final year of studies in the professional program of architecture at Kansas State University in the fall 2008 term. While at K-State in the previous four years, Dan has been unselfish in donating his time to his peers and especially to the younger architecture majors. He has built up an impression list of service tasks that have contributed to a positive and constructive environment in the Department of Architecture and the larger College of Architecture, Planning and Design. These tasks have included work on the annual CAPD job fair (called DesignExpo), Mock Interview Day, and the Architecture Student Advisory Board.

Andrew C. Bryant, from Haysville, Kansas, will be entering his fifth year of studies in the professional architecture program at Kansas State University in the fall of 2008. He has wanted to be an architect since the age of ten. Currently on internship in New York City, Andrew has spent previous summers working on residential construction sites, on commercial construction sites, and within the commercial real estate industry. His interest in architecture runs both deep and wide. Says Andrew, "...I have found that you can learn so much by investing in other peoples' lives, and in most cases it is the best investment in your own life." While working these past four years in the College of Architecture, Planning and Design at K-State to earn his degree in architecture, Andrew has nevertheless found the time to volunteer as a College Ambassador and as a College Mentor for beginning design students. He once served as Co-Chair of the Student Union Program Council (2007) and, perhaps most notably, he has been a very active contributor to NOMAS, the National Organization of Minority Architecture Students, since 2005. Andrew received an AIA Wichita and a KAF scholarship.

Brandon Uloho of Wichita will begin his fourth year in the Masters of Architecture Program and the Multicultural Architecture Scholars Program at the University of Kansas this fall. He received the AIA Wichita scholarship. Brandon attended Wichita High School East where he graduated in 2003 as an honor roll student. He works at the KU Endowment Association as a student manager/fundraiser while not in class or studio. He has a strong interest in sustainable, commercial design.

Aric J. Naeger is a 5th year Master of Architecture student at the University of Kansas from Tulsa. He is on the Dean's Honor Roll and has had work exhibited at the Spencer Art Museum and the Cooper-Hewitt Art Museum. His other interests include the art of stained glass, mosaics, candles, stepping stones and kaleidoscopes. Aric is also a certified pipe welder a trade he has performed for ten years.

Call for Nominations: Henry W. Schirmer Distinguished Service Award

Its purpose is to recognize an individual member who has performed most distinguished leadership and service to AIA Kansas and/or AIA over an extended period of time, such services exceeding those expected in any official capacity, and by leadership, has advanced the cause of our profession and provided an inspiration to his/her fellow practitioners. Nominations due by July 15, 2008.

AIA Kansas Revolve – October 9 – 11 Wichita - Be There!

AIA Kansas Conference Design Awards Chair **Lawrence Scarpa, AIA**; Pugh + Scarpa Architects, Santa Monica (announcements out in a week or so – submissions due: August 25th)

Not your stodgy design awards – it is **Pecha Kucha** where formal meets cargo pants. And, it's free to all attendees!

What **engineers, owners and contracts** really think about architects.

Izzy will be back talking about **intergenerational issues – moving from conflict to productivity** – this is a pre-conference seminar on Thursday that is **free to all attendees**. And much more.

Kate Schwensen, 2006 AIA President who better to talk about the future of architecture?

We have redesigned the exhibit hall and put sessions in there to make our time and theirs much more productive. Plus we will have fabulous prizes where you are an **instant winners in our scratch off games!**

This event will **REVOLVE!**

AIA Kansas Office Closures

The AIA Kansas office will be closed

- June 30 – Trudy and Carol have a one day overlap in vacations
- August 15 and August 18-20 – Trudy and Carol will be attending the American Society of Association Executives Annual Meeting in order to expand our knowledge to serve you, our members

Professional Development

SMPS – **Client Development** on **June 5th** in Kansas City, for more information and to register, go to <http://www.smps.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Education/ClientDevelopment/default.htm>

AIA's Webinar to Learn about the **New Integrated Project Delivery AIA Documents on June 17** from Noon – 1:30 CDT Integrated Project Delivery (IPD) is a project delivery approach that integrates people, systems, business structures, and practices into a process that collaboratively harnesses the talents and insights of all participants to optimize project results, increase value to the owner, and reduce waste and maximize efficiency through all phases of design, fabrication, and construction. To help AIA members use IPD successfully, the Institute has made available a number of state-of-the-art practice tools, including the 2007

Greening the Heartland is the 5th annual USGBC conference and will be at America's Center in St. Louis from **June 22-24**, 2008. For more information and to register go to <http://www.greeningtheheartland.org/>

AIA Providing Member Resources to Weather Economic Squalls: AIA Providing Member Resources to Weather Economic Squalls: The Architecture Billings Index (ABI) has been pointing toward a downturn in the construction market. To prepare members for future uncertainties, the AIA offered to members at no cost a Web seminar on April 29th, "Architecture Practice in an Economic Downturn: Challenges and Opportunities." The webinar explored the economic conditions facing the construction industry and considered options for reducing the impact on architecture firms and practice. The 90-minute program is **available online through June 15** via Soloso: <http://soloso.aia.org/eKnowledge/Resources/Documents/AIAP037830>. Apparently there's a keen market for such information. Eight hundred and seventy five AIA members signed up and an additional 141 sites for the archive, or post live program. When asked, "What is the most important thing you have learned from this discussion?" 53 percent responded they have an understanding of the current situation; 34 percent have a plan for action; and 13 percent indicated confidence they will survive and even thrive. How did the program rate? Twelve percent gave it a mark of excellent, 50 percent very good, and 30 percent good. Not surprisingly, 99 percent said they will participate in another virtual seminar.

Job Board – Visit the AIA Kansas webpage www.aiaks.org for up to the minute listings