

COLUMNS

The Newsletter of the American Institute of Architects, Arkansas Chapter Fall 2009



Annual Convention

Participants visit during the reception at last year's state convention. The reception and banquet are always among the highlights of the AIA Arkansas State Convention. Please see Page 11 for a list of the companies that are helping sponsor this year's event in Hot Springs.

From the President

It's State Convention Time

AIA ARKANSAS PRESIDENT WALLIE SPRICK

As summer comes to a close there is a hint of fall in the air. To most, fall in Arkansas means football, from the Pee Wee league games to the Hogs on Saturday and the pros on Sunday. But for AIA Arkansas, fall means it's State Convention time.

Once again the AIA Convention Committee has assembled an outstanding lineup of speakers, exhibitors and seminars. This is your chance to learn about the latest products, network with vendors, visit with old friends and become inspired by the featured speakers. The convention is an opportunity for AIA members to obtain all of the CEUs required to maintain their state licenses. So plan to attend the 2009 AIA State Convention Oct. 22-24 in Hot Springs and see what you can learn.

The Green Initiative is growing and taking hold in the architectural profession. The media has latched on to the story and is spreading it to the world. It is important for architects to be versed in LEED, best practices and sustainable design.

It is our responsibility to take a leadership role in promoting envi-

ronmental responsibility throughout our communities. It is time for all architects to show owners what we can do to make their projects better and point out the value an architect can bring to their projects.

Your AIA committees have been very active through the spring and summer. The AIA/AGC committee continues to communicate with the AGC on issues affecting the construction industry. As usual, the Convention Committee has the convention program in great shape. Considering the economic times, Allied Membership is still very good, thanks to everyone's efforts to encourage vendor participation with our organization. The AIA Legislative Committee communicates year-round with state and national members to monitor activities that may affect our members.

The AIA/ABA committee is working with the Arkansas Building Authority on guideline revisions and fee schedules. The U of A task force has met with members of the university's facilities management staff on a variety of issues to keep communications open and express our concerns about the selection process.

The economy is still the biggest issue for most firms across the state. Information from National AIA indicates that there has been a very small

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Governor Appoints Chilcote to New Board

Academic Facilities Review Board Created by Act 937 of 2009

Brad Chilcote, AIA, LEED AP, CEFPI has been appointed by Gov. Mike Beebe to the recently created Academic Facilities Review Board.

Chilcote is a principal at Wittenberg, Delong & Davidson, Inc., in Little Rock. As a designer and project manager, he has been involved in the design of K-12 academic facilities for more than 13 years, including the design of more than 20 educational projects.

He is currently the president of the Arkansas Chapter of the Council of Educational Facility Plan-



Brad Chilcote

ners International.

Chilcote holds a Bachelor of Architecture from the Fay Jones School of Architecture at the University of Arkansas. His community involvement includes membership in Class XIX of Leadership Greater Little Rock and in Class III of Leadership Arkansas.

Act 937 of 2009 called for five members of the Academic Facilities Review Board to be appointed by the governor, with one of those being a registered architect.

Beebe also appointed these individuals to the board: Wayne Gibson, El Dorado; Brad Hammond, Fayetteville; Tony Pardew, Jonesboro; and Dan Shepherd, Marion.

Other recent appointments by the governor to boards and commissions include:

- Ken Bethge, Pine Bluff, and Dexter Doayne, College Station, both reappointed to the Arkansas Building Authority Council.
- Tobi Fairley, Little Rock, and William Hall, Jonesboro, to the Arkansas State Board of Architects, Landscape Architects and Interior Designers.

President

(Continued From Page 1)

improvement in some business sectors during the last few months, which is encouraging. The National AIA continues to offer a variety of informational programs to help firms through these difficult times.

Don't forget to visit the National AIA Web site – www.aia.org – to get more helpful information on all aspects of our profession and see what AIA has to offer its members.

What's next? It appears that some of the federal and state stimulus programs are creating work for architects. Hopefully, there will continue to be some economic improvement so we can reach the point of business as usual.

More so than ever, as architects we are challenged to do every thing we can to improve our profession through quality work, responsible design and service to the public.

Please feel free to let me know if you have any issues or concerns that will help make AIA Arkansas better. I hope each of you will get involved with your local sections to promote the profession, learn from each other and make the AIA stronger across the state.

Continuing Education Courses Available From DES for Design, Building Professionals

Educating architects, building designers, builders and interior designers on ways to increase their business through home technology is top priority for Digital Entertainment Systems.

Recently, Brian Powell received the Registered Outreach Instructor (ROI) designation from the Custom Electronic Design & Installation Association (CEDIA) enabling him to deliver 11 courses approved for continuing education credit through the American Institute of Architects (AIA), the American Institute of Building Design (AIBD) and Interior Design Continuing Education Council (IDCEC)-governed interior designer associations.

These ROI courses are part of CEDIA's industry outreach efforts, designed to strengthen collaboration between electronic systems professionals and the design and build industry. As technology continues to grow and change at a rapid pace, the courses offer design and build professionals a better understanding of the capabilities of residential electronic systems. The courses are provided at no charge by DES. Powell can be contacted at (479) 621 8889 or brianp@digitalentertain.com. Topics include hiding technology, planning for residential electronics systems and home theater design.

El Dorado's Dunn Elected Secretary of National Council

Blakely C. Dunn, AIA, of El Dorado, was elected secretary of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) at its 90th Annual Meeting and Conference in Chicago.

Dunn has been a member of the Arkansas State Board of Architects since 1999 and served as chair of the Arkansas board from 2002-2006.

He earned the regard and respect of his colleagues from the Council's Southern Conference (comprised of the U.S. jurisdictions of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and the U.S. Virgin Islands) who elected him secretary (2004), chair (2005 and 2006), and then director (2008 and 2009) of Region 3.



Blakely Dunn

Dunn has given much to the profession through his service on a wide variety of NCARB committees, including the Committee on Education, Broadly-Experienced Architect Committee, Committee on Procedures and Documents, and the 2006/2007 Practice Analysis Task Force.

This past year he was co-chair of the Intern Development Program (IDP) Advisory Committee and Board liaison to the Committee on the IDP. He also served on the Electronic Experience Verification Report Task Force and the IDP/Practice Analysis Linking Study Task Force.

Dunn started his career as an intern at CADM Architecture, Inc., in El Dorado in 1985. After working for several years at Stuck Associates in Little Rock and Bullock-Tice Associates in Pensacola, Fla., Dunn returned to CADM Architecture as a principal in 1991 and was named president in 2000. The 73-year-old firm specializes in designing education, senior living, government and commercial buildings.

A graduate of Louisiana Tech University, Dunn received a Bachelor of Architecture in 1985 and Bachelor of Arts in 1984. He holds the NCARB Certificate for national reciprocity and is registered to practice in Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas and Wisconsin. He is also an active member of the Arkansas Chapter of AIA and the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas.

Dunn's contributions do not stop with the profession of architecture—he has given much to his community as well. He served as commissioner of the El Dorado Historic District Commission and the director of the El Dorado Rotary Club, the El Dorado Main Street Program and the United Cerebral Palsy of South Arkansas.



Chris Ladner

Viridian's Ladner Will Chair New Alternative Energy Panel

Little Rock-based LEED and energy efficiency consultant Chris Ladner has been named chairman of the Arkansas Alternative Energy Commission by Gov. Mike Beebe.

In 2008, Ladner, founding partner of Viridian, served as a member of the Arkansas Governor's Commission on Global Warming.

"I appreciate the confidence that Governor Beebe has placed in me and look forward to working with other commissioners and legislators to identify the best opportunities and strategies that will allow our state to leverage alternative energy," Ladner said.

The commission was created during the 2009 legislative session to study the needs and impacts of various forms of alternative energy on the economic future of Arkansas. The enabling legislation for the group was sponsored by Rep. Fred Allen, D-Little Rock.

Viridian, a Blue Ribbon Partner of AIA Arkansas, is a Little Rock-based independent sustainability facilities consulting firm specializing in LEED, building commissioning and energy modeling consulting services. It is a member of the U.S. Green Building Council, a 501(c)(3) non-profit community of leaders working to make green buildings available to everyone within a generation.

Firms Merge to Form Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects

Two of Arkansas' notable architectural firms – Polk Stanley Rowland Curzon Porter Architects and Wilcox Group Architects – merged in early August to form Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects.

The new entity combines both firms' design teams in Little Rock and Fayetteville. All employees will be part of the new entity, bringing the total number of employees to 40. Both Little Rock firms will occupy the current space of Wilcox Group Architects in the Riverdale area. The new entity will continue to operate a Fayetteville office.

“Over the past few years of partnering, we've discovered a dynamic synergy between the two firms. A successful design process necessitates a high level of collaboration and trust to create livable, flexible space that transcends time,” Wesley Walls, president of Wilcox Group Architects, said. “Our coming together represents a desire to elevate both innovation and client service to a new level, providing creative, yet cost-effective designs for our clients.”

“Both firms are about sustaining value for our clients,” said Reese Rowland, principal with Polk Stanley Rowland Curzon Porter Architects. “Anyone can design a building, but it takes collaboration and trust to create a livable, flexible space that transcends time. Both Polk Stanley and the Wilcox Group are dedicated to that vision. Bringing all of our talent and expertise together to better serve clients is very exciting.”

Both Polk Stanley and Wilcox Group Architects have garnered top design awards on state, regional and national levels. In 2008, Polk Stanley received the architecture industry's highest honor – the American Institute of Architect's National Institute Honor Award – for its work on the Heifer International Headquarters in Little Rock.

The project was also named by the National AIA as one of the top 10 Green Projects in the United States in 2007. In 2009, *Architect Magazine* named Polk Stanley to its prestigious national top 10 award winning firms list, as well as one of the top 100 firms in America.

Wilcox Group Architects won a national VISTA Award in 2005 from the American Society for Healthcare Engineering for its design of UAMS' College of Public Health. Just this year, the firm was one of only two firms in the country to receive the 2008-2009 Intern Development Program Out-

standing Firm Award, given by IDPAC, which is comprised of the American Institute of Architects, among other groups.

Some of the state's largest and most recognizable buildings have been designed by the teams of Polk Stanley and Wilcox Group Architects. These include the Heifer International World Headquarters and Welcome Center, Acxiom River Market Tower Headquarters, Little Rock Chamber of Commerce, Bank of the Ozarks Headquarters, the new UAMS Hospital and Psychiatric Research Institute, UAMS College of Public Health, Fellowship Bible Church in Little Rock, HP Conway headquarters, Camp Aldersgate's Camp Commons and the Arkansas Studies Institute.

“Our philosophy together will be the same as what has driven us as separate firms,” said David Porter, principal with Polk Stanley Rowland Curzon Porter Architects. “In any project large or small, our goal is to integrate ourselves into a client's mission in order to design facilities that positively impact the

“Our coming together represents a desire to elevate both innovation and client service to a new level, providing creative, yet cost-effective designs for our clients.” — Wesley Walls

lives of people and communities. We understand that an overwhelming portion of our time as people is spent in built environments, which means we need to design spaces that are comfortable, healthy and promote productivity.”

Both firms are leaders in sustainable design and together will continue playing an active role in promoting “green” design to clients and the design/construction industry. The Wilcox Group, in association with RPPY, designed the state's first building certified as a LEED Gold Building by the U.S. Green Building Council (Camp Aldersgate's Camp Commons) in 2005, while Polk Stanley designed the state's first LEED Platinum Building (Heifer International Headquarters) in 2007.

“As architects and interior designers, we are dedicated to designing spaces that mirror our clients' passions and commitments to the environment,” said Steve Kinzler, CEO of Wilcox Group Architects. “We are constantly looking at ways to incorporate sustainable, livable design into our clients' everyday spaces. We focus on designing buildings that reduce energy costs and positively impact where we work, live, play, learn, heal and worship.”

The new firm is led by the integrated partnership from both prior companies: Joe Stanley (CEO), Steve Kinzler (President), Craig Curzon, Paul Gregory, Jason Landrum, Ross McCain, David Porter, Reese Rowland and Wesley Walls.

Bethel Middle School

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Green is the New Primary Color: LEED Schools for Arkansas

Lecture By:

Dr. Richard Abernathy
Superintendent
Bryant School District

Dr. Debbie Bruick
Assistant Superintendent
Bryant School District

October 6th 2009 6:00 pm
Arkansas Arts Center Lecture Hall
Preceded by a 5:30 pm reception
Free and open to the Public

Hurricane Creek Elementary



Art of Architecture Lecture Series Set

The 2009-2010 Art of Architecture Lecture Series will kick off at 6 p.m. Oct. 6 with "Green is the New Primary Color: Sustainable Schools for Arkansas" in the Lecture Hall of the Arkansas Arts Center in Little Rock.

Dr. Richard Abernathy, superintendent, and Dr. Debbie Bruick, assistant superintendent, of the Bryant School District will talk about the system's two new public schools, which are the first in Arkansas to achieve LEED certification.

The presentation will be preceded by a cocktail reception at 5:30 p.m. The series focuses on ways architects and clients, working together, serve the educational, recreational and cultural needs of the area.

Other events in the series:

Jan. 26, 2010: "MacArthur Park Redux: Never Underestimate What a Group of Citizens Can Do," Sharon Priest, Downtown Little Rock Partnership.

April 6, 2010: "Reviving the Alexandria Library," Craig Dykers, founding member of the Snohetta architectural firm.

May 11, 2010: "Architectural Design for Public Spaces: CALS, a Case Study," Bobby Roberts, director of the Central Arkansas Library System.

For details, contact Jennifer Herron at (501) 975-0052 or Randy Calculict at (501) 664-8700.

48 Golfers Take Part In Fort Smith Tourney

Forty-eight golfers participated in the 20th Annual Nathan McDaniel Golf Tournament, sponsored by the Fort Smith Section of AIA Arkansas, on Aug. 29 at Ben Geren Golf Course in Fort Smith.

Craig Boone, AIA, of Architecture Plus, Inc., reports that close to \$400 was raised in the putting



Central Section Aids Arkansas Foodbank Network

Mulligan sales at the Central Section Annual Golf Tournament in June raised more than \$1,100 for the Arkansas Food Bank Network. Presenting the check to Karen Erren (second from right), the Foodbank's development director, are (from left) Jennifer Herron, AIA, Chris Cerrato of Innerplan Office Interiors and Wallie Sprick, AIA.

contest, which benefited the local First Tee of Arkansas facility.

Contract Furnishings Exposition Scheduled

DeltaCON 2009, a regional contract furnishings exposition, is scheduled for Oct. 15-16 at the Jackson Convention Complex in Jackson, Miss.

A cocktail reception is planned for Thursday evening. Friday's activities will include an exhibitor trade show as well as 10 continuing education opportunities.

The event is organized through a volunteer alliance between the Delta Regional Chapter of the International Interior Design Association (IDA) and the South Central Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID).

DeltaCON focuses on introducing the latest in products and in-

novative ideas to the Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi community of interior designers, facility managers, architects, design students and other industry members.

For more information, contact Stephanie Maley at (601) 948-4601 or smaley@jharchitects.com. Registration deadline is Oct. 2.

National Component Has New Phone System

The AIA national component switched to a new phone system, Cisco IP, on Aug. 27 that connects call center agents' phones with the member and customer database.

New menu features for those calling the AIA national information center line, 800-242-3837, include the option to provide a member number and or order number, allowing agents to bring up background records.

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at aiaar.org.)*

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Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects Names Rose, Herrman Associates

Greg Rose, AIA,
and Mark Herrmann,
AIA, have been
named associates
with Polk Stanley
Wilcox Architects.

Rose is with the
firm's Little Rock of-
fice.

Herrmann works
in the company's Fa-
yetteville office.



Rose

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We Look Forward to Seeing You in Hot Springs!

Green Construction Code

It's Expected to Increase Energy Efficiency, Reduce Carbon Footprint for Buildings

Earlier this summer, the International Code Council launched its International Green Construction Code (IGCC) initiative, which will reduce energy usage and the carbon footprint of commercial buildings.

Entitled "IGCC: Safe and Sustainable By the Book," the initiative is committed to develop a model code focused on new and existing commercial buildings. It will focus on building design and performance. Buildings consume approximately 40 percent of energy used and produce about the same amount of the nation's carbon emissions.

The Code Council included a number of key organizations during its announcement, including noting special roles for the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and ASTM as cooperating sponsors for this important project.

"We believe the time has come for us to develop a code that will stand as a useful and credible regulatory framework for creating a greener commercial building stock," said Code Council CEO Richard P. Weiland. "We applaud and plan to utilize the good work of those who have developed systems, guidelines and standards to address green buildings."

Weiland acknowledged the presence of many organizations that have developed "green tools" impacting the built environment and welcomed their support and assistance in crafting the new initiative. After recognizing the historic role of Code Council members in the development codes such as the International Energy Conservation Code and the rapid evolution of new systems and guidelines to address green technology, Weiland said it was time to move into a "new era of codes that specifically

focus on green buildings and high performance. We are now at a place in the evolution of the sustainability movement that requires the specificity, the reliability, and the enforceability that only a code can bring."

Code Council Board President Adolf Zubia outlined the Code Council's development timeline, which will include public meetings of the Sustainable Building Technology Committee (SBTC), a public comment period on the Committee's initial draft, and a final draft that will be made available in 2010 as a resource document before it moves through the development hearing and final action hearing stages. The Code Council Board established the SBTC last year and finalized the Committee's membership earlier this month.

The AIA and ASTM will have visible participation in the development process. Weiland referenced the compatibility of the AIA 2030 carbon neutrality goals with the green code initiative, and emphasized the importance of design, architects and architecture in creating a useful tool for AIA members as well as the Code Council membership. The cooperation of the ASTM "signals the collaboration behind this project and the science that will drive it," Weiland said. "Their cooperation with us will ensure we pursue a development process that is based on recognized and verifiable approaches to standards."

AIA Executive Vice President/CEO Christine McEntee and ASTM President James A. Thomas also made remarks at the launch event.

"The AIA commends the leadership of ICC and is delighted to join with them and other stakeholders in working collaboratively toward the goal of a model green construc-

tion code," McEntee said. "It is important for the private sector to be proactive and take a leadership position in the development of building codes and standards and this initiative makes a strong statement regarding the usefulness and necessity of the International Green Construction Code in fulfilling that goal. As the team leader in determining the performance of buildings, architects welcome the prospect of a reliable and quantifiable tool that will be a valuable resource in helping advance our steadfast commitment to achieving carbon neutrality by 2030."

ASTM International welcomes the opportunity to work hand in hand with the ICC, AIA and other stakeholders in the development of a new international code to improve the efficiency and sustainability attributes of buildings," Thomas said.

"Over 450 ASTM building and construction related standards are referenced by existing international codes and our members continue to develop innovative standards that will play an important role in meeting the objectives of this new green code initiative."

Meetings are under way in a national effort to engage the public and the construction industry on the first generation of a safe and sustainable building code.

To visit the IGCC Web site, go to www.iccsafe.org/IGCC. For information on supporting publications and services for green activities, review the Code Council's green pages at www.iccsafe.org/green.

The International Code Council, a membership association dedicated to building safety, fire prevention and energy efficiency, develops the codes used to construct residential and commercial buildings, including homes and schools. Most U.S. cities, counties and states choose the International Codes, building safety codes developed by the ICC.

