

COLUMNS

The Newsletter of The American Institute of Architects / Arkansas Chapter / December 2005



In This Issue...

- A Word From the President / Page 1
- ACME Brick Thank You / Page 1
- 2006 Membership Renewals / Page 1
- Invest in Education with Applied Technology Group / Page 2
- Annual AIA Event Draws Rave Reviews / Page 2
- Northwest Arkansas Regional News / Page 3
- Bird in Paradise / Page 3
- Northwest Section News / Page 3
- Central Arkansas Section News / Page 3
- New Staff at Wilcox Group Architects / Page 3
- 2005 Design Awards / Pages 4-9
- Welcome New Members / Page 10
- Welcome New Allied Members / Page 10
- Classified Advertising / Page 10

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

December 7, 2005

The year is winding down. 2005 will soon be in the past. It has taken many of you, who so selflessly devoted hours to our organization, to make 2005 a great year for our AIA Arkansas. I personally want to thank each of you for your participation. An organization like ours, with all its unique characteristics, operates best when member participation is high. With your assistance, we were able to have a successful legislative season, redesign our newsletter, distribute our newsletter via email, begin development of an AIA Arkansas website, contribute to fellow architects in the Gulf States Region who were negatively affected by Hurricane Katrina, participate in the updating of the AIA Gulf States Region bylaws, host a successful and entertaining 2005 AIA Arkansas Convention, recognize deserving individuals of special recognitions, present design awards for design leadership within our organization, work to develop a stronger Allied membership program and develop stronger relationships with many of our associated organizations such as Associated General Contractors and Arkansas Consulting Engineers Council. It has been a busy and rewarding year for all of us.

While 2005 is quickly coming to a close, AIA Arkansas' 2006 is already beginning. The next few weeks of December and the first few weeks of January will be spent planning the goals

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AIA National has sent out your 2006 Membership Renewals. Membership dues should be sent directly to AIA National. Their mailing address will be included in your renewal information. You can also renew your membership online at www.aia.org. There is a link on the home page for your convenience.

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PRESIDENT (Continued from page 1)

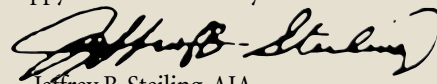
and events for the upcoming year. The transition of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors leadership will occur in January. Please provide any thoughts or comments you might have to Brent Stevenson's office or any board member.

In closing let me thank the entire membership for allowing me to serve as your 2005 AIA Arkansas President. It has truly been an honor representing this wonderful group in so many different capacities. Special thanks go to Brent Stevenson and Joie Ketchum for all of their tireless efforts. Without their support as our Executive Director, our AIA Arkansas would

never be able to manage the day to day tasks, not to mention the special events, which our organization demands.

If you have a special interest in an area we are working and would like to be more involved or if you have ideas for new areas in which we can work; rest assured there is room for your talents. Do not hesitate to call the AIA Arkansas office at 501-661-1111 or any board member for further information.

Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for a Happy New Year to all of you.


Jeffrey B. Steiling, AIA

Invest in Education with Applied Technology Group

The Invest in Education program is a granting program aimed at connecting commercial customers with local educational institutions. This program gives commercial companies who purchase new Autodesk software through Applied Technology Group the right to grant a \$25,000.00 classroom lab pack of Autodesk software to the institution of their choice.

Recently a Little Rock based engineering firm in association with Applied Technology Group donated a 25 seat Autodesk Building Systems lab pack to the engineering division of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. For more information about how you could participate in the Invest in Education program, please contact us at sales@appliedtg.com

Annual AIA Event Draws Rave Reviews in Hot Springs

The 2005 Arkansas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects recently drew more than 500 members and allied members to the resort community of Hot Springs for fun, fellowship and the continuing education required annually for registered architects.

This year's annual event opened with a golf outing (featuring a more liberal interpretation of the rules) rather than the more traditional – and formal – golf tournament.

Highlights of the convention included the Architect as Artist exhibit and more than a dozen architects participated, submitting exhibits ranging from sculptures to a drawing. Also unique to this year's meeting was the brick-and-stone mason demonstration, which provided hands-on experience in Dupont Tyvek bubble for the architects.

Thursday Allied CES workshops were sponsored by Innerplan Office Interiors, Today's Office, Lighting Power & Solutions, Inc. and Dupont Tyvek. A number of alternate CES workshops were

provided several of our Allied Members.

The state's eight newly licensed architects were recognized at the banquet. They included Wayne Hardy, AIA, Chris Hartsfield, AIA, Diane Meek, AIA, Garth Hudgins, AIA and Casey Hargrave, AIA who all attended, as well as Bret Park, Bradley Edwards and James Ramsey, who were not present.

Chapter Awards were presented to Gordon L. Duckworth, AIA, Howard Terry Rasco, AIA and Sheila Galbraith Bronfman. Five Honor Awards, three Merit Awards, one Citation Award and one Member Choice Award were presented.

The AIA Convention Committee members who organized the event included Thad R. Kelly of Fayetteville, Chairman; Mark Cahoon, Speaker Chair; C. Anthony Taylor, Speaker Co-Chair; David French, Facilities; Chad Young, Design Awards; Jerry Brackett, Graphics; Craig Boone, Golf Outing; Jeff Steiling, President; Brent Stevenson, Executive Director and Joie Ketcham, AIA Arkansas Staff.

Northwest Arkansas Section of the Arkansas Chapter AIA – Fourth Quarter Report

We had a NWA/AIA Christmas party on Tuesday the 13th at Cool Water Café in Fayetteville with about 75 attendees. Dinner was served and the Calatrava presentation from the AIA National Convention was shown.

On October 24th, the NWA Section sponsored a joint USGBC/AIA meeting at the Fayetteville Library to discuss the formation of a subchapter of the USGBC in Northwest Arkansas. 100 attended a presentation of LEED projects and held an AIA meeting afterward. The Section has developed a list of interested parties and will explore this further after the holidays. Ken and Marsha attended the USGBC meeting in Little Rock last week and enjoyed a presentation by the National Chairman. There will be more involvement with this after the

first of the year.

The AIA gave over \$3,000 to the U of A Architecture scholarship program in addition to the \$1,000 donation to the Elizabeth Richardson Center this year with Tim DeNoble's Chairmanship. This is quite an accomplishment for our Section.

The Section will be giving \$3,000 toward the Scholarship Program this year also.

Rich Brya of 3GD in Rogers has served as Vice Chairman and will be the new Section Chairman in 2006. His Vice Chair will be Tim Cooper of Cooper Architects in Fayetteville.

Ken Emanuelson AIA / *NWA Section Chairman*

Birds in Paradise

The Northwest section will again be sponsoring "Birds in Paradise", a birdhouse auction to benefit the Elizabeth Richardson Center Pre-School in Fayetteville. At the event on March 31st, birdhouses built by architects, builders, and artists will be auctioned to the highest bidders in both live and silent

auctions. This will be the second year for the event, and we would love to get birdhouses from some of you in other parts of the state. There are also sponsorship opportunities available. For entry forms, tickets, or other information contact Rich Brya (erbrya@3gdinc.com).

Central Section Report

Thanks to all who have attended Central Section Events this year. Russ Fason of my office will be leading the charge for '06 and already has an event scheduled for February. To wind up the year, the Central Section toured Winrock National Headquarters in October. In November, in partnership with the U of A and the Arkansas Arts Center, we hosted a lecture by U of A professor Russell Rudzinski on student works associated with the Mexico Summer Urban Studio.

While I did not get to everything I wanted to do this year, I felt it a good start to getting the Central Section back together again. Remember to try to participate in events sponsored by our Allied Members and show your support. The events this year provided 8.5 CES points, 3.5 of

those HSW. Russ will give you a heads up on activities for the first quarter of '06. Thanks.

Eldon Bock / *2005 Central Section Chairman*

I'd like to thank Eldon for organizing some great programs this past year and hope that we keep gaining momentum in '06. We have a few events in the works so far, the first being a lecture in partnership with the Arkansas Arts Center and The University of Arkansas School of Architecture by William Conway, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis MN, Recent Works. The date for this lecture is Tuesday February 14th, so bring your sweetheart. Looking forward to seeing everyone at this year's events.

Russ Fason / *2006 Central Section Chairman*

Andrijana Vukovich, Assoc. AIA and Candi Lynn Adams, Assoc. AIA Join Rapidly Growing Wilcox Group Architects

Little Rock, Ark. (November 28, 2005) The Wilcox Group Architects is proud to announce the addition of Andrijana Vukovich, Assoc. AIA and Candi Lynn Adams, Assoc. AIA to their growing design firm. Both are graduates of the University of Arkansas School of Architecture, Vukovich graduated in 2003 with a Bachelors of Architecture. Before joining Wilcox Group Architects, she interned with another Arkansas architecture firm working on residence halls, hospitals and churches.

Adams, a Jerry C. Wilcox Memorial Scholar and winner of an Alpha Rho Chi Medal, graduated with a Bachelors of Architecture, Magna Cum

Laude, in 2004. She currently serves as the Arkansas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects Associate Director – 2006.

Established in 1989, Wilcox Group Architects is a full-service architectural firm whose work includes the College of Public Health at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, the new Arkansas Department of Health Public Health Laboratory, Baptist Springhill hospital and medical office building, Camp Aldersgate as well as numerous other healthcare, educational and non-profit facilities.

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Design Awards Presented at the AIA Arkansas 2005 State Convention

The Design Awards program honors works of distinction of AIA Arkansas members and draw public attention to example of outstanding architecture. Projects are submitted in five categories, with the possibility of three levels of awards: honor, merit and citation awards.

Honor awards are granted for overall design excellence; merit awards are granted to projects worthy of recognition because of their design quality; and a citation award may be granted to one project submitted in the open category in recognition of creativity and design possibilities. A jury of practicing architects from Atlanta, Ga., selected the 2005 AIA Arkansas Design Awards.

Jennings & McKee Win Honor Design Award for Retreat Project

HOT SPRINGS — The Maurice Jennings and David McKee Architects firm of Fayetteville recently received an Honor Design Award from the Arkansas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for its work on a family retreat in Sewanee, Tenn. The award was presented at the annual AIA Arkansas State Convention and Awards Banquet recently at the Hot Springs Convention Center and Arlington Hotel.



Maurice Jennings, AIA, and David McKee, AIA, were the project architects. Their clients requested a building that would function as a family retreat for weekend getaways as well as summer and holiday gatherings. This 3,900-SF family retreat is sited at the edge of a bluff such that its balcony cantilevers out toward the dramatic view. A bridge connects the auto court to the main entry below a single low-sloped gable roof.

After closely inspecting this project, the judges were very impressed by the exquisite detailing and use of materials. They commented that the design was executed very well in the spirit of the Faye Jones style and that this project displayed a very strong relationship to the site.

The owner said he “got everything I wanted in this house, as well as the look I love. My family is very happy with the result.”

Marlon Blackwell Firm Wins Honor Design Award for Office Building

HOT SPRINGS — The Marlon Blackwell Architect firm of Fayetteville recently received an Honor Design Award from the Arkansas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for its work on the Srygley Office Building at Johnson. The award was *(continued)*

presented at the annual AIA Arkansas State Convention and Awards Banquet recently at the Hot Springs Convention Center and Arlington Hotel.

Marlon Blackwell, AIA, and Gail Shepherd were honored for their work on the project. Situated on ¾ -acre lot in a small office park and housing a small privately owned financial lending company, the structure is sited in opposition to the prevailing orientation of the



other offices with their front façade to the street. This building is made of tough materials on its exterior, but gives way to a more refined and enriched interior. Each worker's office is filled with natural light and given views that are framed and screened with indigenous trees and flowers.

The jurors thought this project was excellent and commented that the contextual images were very useful and the juxtaposition of the new facility in the office park context was bold. They said the interiors were very clean and there were many nice spaces. The jurors also liked the strong massing gestures and the simple and restrained material selection.

“Working with Marlon was a good experience,” the owner said. “He spent a good deal of time on the site and made the landscape (trees) a focal point. . . similar to a tree house. He took care of all aspects of the project and he was a pleasure to work with.”

Marlon Blackwell Firm Wins Honor Design Award for Arkansas House

HOT SPRINGS — The Marlon Blackwell Architect firm of Fayetteville recently received an Honor Design Award from the Arkansas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects

for its renovation work on a house in Northwest Arkansas. The award was presented at the annual AIA Arkansas State Convention and Awards Banquet recently at the Hot Springs Convention Center and Arlington Hotel.



Marlon Blackwell, AIA, and Yume Rudzinski, AIA, the project architects, reassembled and transformed the fire-damaged home, instilling it with a new sense of hierarchy through the addition of light monitors and suspended lofts to the children's spaces, a new kitchen and a great room with a saddle-back roof.

The jurors said the house was gorgeous and had wonderful transparent spaces. They noted that the solid walls enclose to give a sense of intimacy. The jurors saw more each time they looked at it with very high compliments to the detailing, noting that every piece of the project is finely crafted. *(continued)*

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“Marlon was very thoughtful in his design process,” the owner said. “The ability for give-and-take, between what the architect thinks will work and the owner’s personal ideas was stimulating, educational and rewarding. Marlon was not afraid to try new things. The ability to fine tune the process of remodeling once the project was under way was beneficial. We knew what would work and were able to suggest what might work better for us. In the end, nothing seems to be out of place. The spatial, functional and living relationships are all balanced. We enjoyed this experience.”

Cromwell Firms Wins Design Award for UA Innovation Center

HOT SPRINGS — Cromwell Architects Engineers of Little Rock recently received an Honor Design Award from the Arkansas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for its work on the Innovation Center at University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. The award was presented at the annual AIA Arkansas State Convention and Awards Banquet recently at the Hot Springs Convention Center and Arlington Hotel.



The project architects were Charles Penix, AIA, LEED AP, and Sharon Hoover, AIA, LEED AP.

The Innovation Center is the first building in the Arkansas Research and Technology Park and houses the UA Technology and Development Foundation. It also provides office and laboratory space for technology-intensive companies to collaborate with the UA’s departments and faculty. The design of the 35,000-SF facility took an aggressive hi-tech approach to create an identity and image that reflected the users’ goals of providing maximum flexibility, affordable maintenance and cutting edge technology and innovation.

Calling it very compelling, the jurors liked the massing and sculptural forms in the building and said it displayed a very clean palette. It was the first LEED Certified building in the state.

“Working with Charlie and Cromwell Architects Engineers was a really good experience from start to completion,” a UA spokesman said. “I always had Charlie’s full attention. They put together an excellent project team. The project was very well designed with few change orders and it was kept within budget. There was very good cooperation and overall this was a very good experience.”

Architects Win Design Award for Camp Aldersgate Commons Center

HOT SPRINGS — Wesley Walls, AIA, and Martha Jane Murray, LEED AP, both with the Wilcox Group Architects and David Perry, AIA, of Roark Perkins Perry Yelvington were recently honored for their work on the Commons Center at Camp Aldersgate in Little Rock. They received an Honor Design Award from the Arkansas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects at the annual AIA



Arkansas State Convention and Awards Banquet recently at the Hot Springs Convention Center and Arlington Hotel.

The centerpiece of this master planning project was the Camp’s “Commons” dining and activity center, which was to exemplify its mission of being accessible for children with disabilities, sustainable in its construction and inspirational as a camp for youngsters.

The building is crafted on both the exterior and interior of stone, glass and wood. It is wrapped by a large elevated porch and is bisected by the building’s central public concourse. This “hall of trees” is crafted to inspire and represent the camp’s natural surroundings. The project was awarded LEED Gold Certification.

Jurors said this project for the highly cherished camp for children with disabilities – set in a wooded oasis in the middle of an urban environment – really explains the relationship of the building to its site. They said it has very nice massing and hierarchy of elements and that the tree metaphor was very successful. The jurors were impressed with the details down to the placement of steel plates and lighting.

“The Commons Center began with an idea, then was designed and constructed by a group of architects who truly love Camp Aldersgate,” a Camp spokesman said. “Those involved in the creation of this building are dear friends of the camp and have known the camp for a long time. I cannot thank them enough for their thoughtfulness and energy in making this incredible building a reality.”

For their work, the architects also received the Member Honor Award, presented to the firm for the project that receives the most votes from AIA Arkansas membership during the convention. *(continued)*

Rogers Architect Wins Design Award for Remodeling Project

HOT SPRINGS — Rich Brya, AIA of 3GD Inc. in Rogers recently received a Merit Design Award from the Arkansas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for work on the Kernan residence. The award was presented at the group's annual State Convention and Awards Banquet recently at the Hot Springs Convention Center and Arlington Hotel.



“We have come to appreciate the difference good design can make to the experience of living,” Dean Kernan and his wife, Susanne, told Brya. The plan for remodeling their ranch-style house in a Rogers subdivision was to open it all up inside to create intimate spaces within the whole with the use of floating plywood partitions.

The judges felt that this project was very honest and that Brya and 3GD kept the existing scale of the house intact. They liked the planes as they direct your views outside and the creative use of paneling, and they felt that there was a certain amount of mystery and layering to space that made it very elegant.

The owner said “working with Rich and the 3GD firm was a fruitful collaboration. . . We ended up with more house for the money, fabulous and unique features, better construction than most new ones, and a mature neighborhood to boot.”

Allison Architects Win Design Award for School Project

HOT SPRINGS — John Allison, AIA, and his firm, Allison Architects, Inc., recently received a Merit Design Award from the Arkansas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for work on the Wakefield Elementary School in Little Rock. The award was presented at the group's annual State Convention and Awards Banquet recently at the Hot Springs Convention Center and Arlington Hotel.

Wakefield Elementary School has served an ethnically diverse neighborhood in Little Rock since 1959. As a cornerstone of the community, the school is a partner with Share America through the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. A fire in 2002 destroyed all of the original facility except for the cafeteria. In rebuilding and expanding the complex under new safety guidelines, Allison Architects' objectives were to create an inspirational atmosphere, respond to the site's



orientation, respect the scale of the surrounding neighborhood, incorporate an existing cafeteria and provide an innovative response to the school district's guidelines and limited budget.

The judges commented that the school has a really pleasing scale, is very approachable and that Allison did a good job within the budget that was given. They said the attention to detail was very nice and that they were impressed with the graphics and the well-done Aldo-Rossi-like entry.

“The project from start to finish was excellent,” a school spokesman said. “We really enjoyed working with John Allison. It was a tough project to start with, but it came in under budget and everyone was pleased.”

Winrock Building Earns Design Award for Cromwell/HOK

HOT SPRINGS — Cromwell Architects Engineers/HOK recently received a Merit Design Award from the Arkansas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for work on the new Winrock International global headquarters in Little Rock. The award was



presented at the group's annual State Convention and Awards Banquet recently at the Hot Springs Convention Center and Arlington Hotel.

Eugene Levy, FAIA, and Sam Spata, AIA, LEED AP, were the project architects.

From the outset, Winrock International, which set out to prove that sustainability pays, challenged the architects to design a

sustainable, global headquarters at a budget competitive with conventional office buildings.

The jurors liked the restrained palette and the regimented structural elements the architects created for the 23,000 SF building. They also liked the day lighting and were very complimentary of the sustainable design. The roof is supported by inverted steel trusses and has a circular opening in the roof, which allows harvested rainwater to fall into a plinth below.

This project also achieved a LEED Gold designation for excellence in responsible architecture.

“When the Winrock organization began to build, they began with thinking about their needs and about their core values,” a Winrock spokesman said. “They took these values and related them to the structure and the symbolic value of the structure. Sustainability was very important, particularly in life cycle costs and this reflected these values of Winrock. The Winrock organization is represented in 65 other countries and wanted its building to exemplify that the organization is a good steward with resources as a non-profit”

UA CDC Architects Win Citation Award for Good Shepherd Project

HOT SPRINGS — Architects from the University of Arkansas Community Design Center recently received a Citation Award from the Arkansas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for Veranda Urbanism: Community Design and Aging in Place, their project for the Good Shepherd Ecumenical Retirement Community in Little Rock. The award was presented at the group’s annual State Convention and Awards Banquet recently at the Hot Springs Convention Center and Arlington Hotel.



Stephen Luoni, Associate, AIA, Jeff Shannon, AIA, and Tim DeNoble, AIA, were the project architects. Their primary challenge was twofold: diversification of housing stock to accommodate various aging lifestyles and states of dependence, and creation of physical community frameworks supportive of aging.

Jurors described the architects’ work as being very poetic and very complex, commenting on the unique exterior spaces created and calling the project new and dynamic for elderly care. The jurors discussed the unique quality of life with a proposed facility like this one and described the renderings as amazing.

“The project team at the UA CDC was truly exceptional; totally dedicated to public service, unsurpassed professionalism in all areas, and truly innovative,” a spokesman for Good Shepherd said. “The scope of work they performed for Good Shepherd will have a lasting impact for the entire State of Arkansas. Housing needs for seniors in Arkansas are exploding and there is no concerted effort to alleviate this critical need. The UA CDC was instrumental in launching us on a new path to help meet these needs by developing a strategic plan to grow the Good Shepherd campus from 500 to over 2,000 over the next 20 years.”

Rasco Receives 2005 Fay Jones Gold Medal From AIA Arkansas

HOT SPRINGS — H. Terry Rasco, FAIA of Witsell Evans & Rasco received the 2005 Fay Jones Gold Medal from the Arkansas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects at the group’s annual State Convention and Awards Banquet recently at the Hot Springs Convention Center and the Arlington Hotel.



The award recognizes an individual architect who demonstrates touchstones of excellence through artistic vision and design, leadership and service to the State of Arkansas and the AIA Arkansas Chapter. Excellence is measured not only by the mark of architectural and individual achievement, but through the esteem and regard held for the architect by professional practitioners and the community as a whole.

The Gold Medal Award is aptly named after the late Fay Jones, FAIA, whose work encompasses and embodies all the qualities AIA Arkansas admires in an architect and a person. It represents his excellence as well as those who receive this prestigious award.

For more than 30 years, Rasco has been living his dream of being an architect, a career decision made in the sixth grade at Westside Elementary School in DeWitt, Arkansas, only 25 miles from where his great-great-great-great-great-grandparents settled in the wilderness of Arkansas Post some 250 years ago. From playing with Lincoln Logs, to building tree houses, to designing complex research facilities, Rasco has grown to serve his ancestors’ chosen land and his chosen profession in exemplary fashion.

Witsell Evans & Rasco, a 20-plus person diverse practice of new, historic and adaptive reuse projects, has won four Gulf States Regional and 16 AIA Arkansas Design Awards plus numerous other awards of recognition during the past 26 years. Notable among the firm’s projects for which Rasco served as principal-in-charge are: the Arkansas Repertory Theatre (an AIA Arkansas and Gulf States Design Award winner); the Tyson Center of Excellence for Poultry Science (an AIA Arkansas Design Award winner); the Bumpers National Rice Research Center in Stuttgart; and the Alumni Center at the University of Arkansas. Rasco recently led the firm’s involvement in the Clinton Presidential Center in Little Rock and is currently involved in the design of a new facility for the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management.

Rasco has been a member of AIA Arkansas since 1974, serving as a

board member or officer for six years and as president in 1981. He also served for six years on the National AIA Continuing Education Committee and was National Chairman in 1984. At age 39, he was elevated to Fellowship in the Institute in 1987, among the youngest architects in the country to ever be so honored.

He was appointed by Governor Bill Clinton to two five-year terms on the Arkansas State Board of Architects from 1984-94, serving as president for over four years. During this time he led the board to hire a full-time director and substantially elevated the stature of the board and the profession. His professional involvement led to appointments to the prestigious NCARB National Exam Committee, serving as chairman of the Design Section in 1988, and the National Administration and Methodologies Committee for five years, developing ways to computerize the licensing examination process.

Rasco's civic activities have paralleled his professional life, with service and support of many organizations. He has served on the boards of the Old State House, First United Methodist Church, and Arkansas Hospice, chairing each for a term. He is currently on the board of Easter Seals Arkansas, a member of the Rotary Club of Little Rock and is chairman of the building committee for Arkansas Hospice.

In 1994, President Clinton appointed Rasco to a 10-year term on the board of the National Institute for Building Sciences, a position requiring confirmation by the U.S. Senate. During his tenure, he participated on several NIBS subcommittees and chaired the Annual Report to the President of the United States for four years.

Duckworth Receives 2005 Dick Savage Award From AIA Arkansas

HOT SPRINGS — Gordon L. Duckworth, AIA received the 2005 Dick Savage Award from the Arkansas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects at the group's annual State Convention and Awards Banquet recently at the Hot Springs Convention Center and the Arlington Hotel. The award, for outstanding member of the year, recognizes an AIA Arkansas member who has made notable and



significant contributions to both the state chapter and the profession of architecture.

Duckworth is a senior associate in the firm of Wittenberg, Delony & Davidson, Inc., located in Little Rock and Fayetteville, Arkansas. He received his Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville in 1976 and

previously attended the University of Memphis. He is a past president of AIA Arkansas, having served on the Board of Directors and chaired numerous committees. Presently, he is a member of the AIA Arkansas Legislative Committee and the Advisory Board for the UA School of Architecture.

Duckworth is a project manager for design and production and has been in charge of various projects during his career, including the Statehouse Convention Center Expansion, Rainwater Flats Condominiums, and McClellan VA MRI in Little Rock; the Arkansas State University Student Center in Jonesboro; Northwest

Arkansas Community College Shewmaker Center for Workforce Technologies in Bentonville; Intermodal Transit Facility/Parking Deck and the Razorback Stadium West Facade Renovation on the UA campus.

He is married to Debora Duckworth and is the son of Mrs. Elois Duckworth and the late Dr. Gordon Duckworth Jr. of Hayti, Mo.

Bronfman Receives 2005 Award of Merit From AIA Arkansas

HOT SPRINGS — Sheila Galbraith Bronfman, former executive director of the Arkansas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, received the group's 2005 Award of Merit at its annual State Convention and Awards Banquet recently at the Hot Springs Convention Center and the Arlington Hotel.



Bronfman, who has more than 28 years of experience in elective politics, has worked in campaigns from school board to U.S. president and has lobbied for statewide associations and national corporations. She is president of Southern Strategy Group, a governmental relations, political consulting and association management firm.

She has a B.A. in psychology from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and an M.Ed. in counseling from the University of South Carolina at Columbia.

Her first work with AIA Arkansas was as its lobbyist in 1995. When she took over management of the association in 1997, there were approximately 300 members and a budget of \$82,500. Publications and auxiliary materials were few and far between. By 2004, AIA had grown to 550 association members, 86 allied members, 120 firm contacts, and 33 affiliate and organizational members for a total of 789 members with an annual budget of \$250,000. Under her leadership, the State Convention grew from about 189 in total attendance to 650 with a trade show of 60 exhibitors and a budget of \$85,000 plus. Due to her efforts, AIA Arkansas now has a statewide organization with four active sections, publishes a membership directory, has an electronic newsletter, a solid database and produced an award winning video/DVD for marketing. She also started the allied membership program, worked to provide an excellent leadership retreat and conducted a first-class lobbying and legislative program. She stepped down as executive director in 2004.

She was an active member of the American Institute of Architects Council of Component Executives and served for several years on the National AIA Governmental Affairs Committee. Bronfman is an active member and past president of the Arkansas Society of Professional Lobbyists. She is also active in the Arkansas Society of Association Executives and in 2003 received its Overall Excellence in Communications Award for the AIA Arkansas Video "The Architect: Art, Experience and Value."

She is married to Dr. Richard Bronfman and they have three godchildren and are Nana and Papa to Lilly and Maggie.

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