

# COLUMNS

Newsletter of the American Institute of Architects, Arkansas Chapter

Spring 2010



*Jerry Brackett*

## President's Message

*Jerry Brackett  
AIA President*

**A**IA Arkansas 2010 is off to a Great Start! The Board retreat in Branson was exceptional. A strategic planning session was held both days with Bob Harris, CAE of Strategic Planning Services, Tallahassee, Florida.

All aspects of AIA Arkansas were discussed with the goal of keeping our organization vital and relevant well into the future by providing the best possible services to our membership. As a result, we have revised our mission statement, made changes to our committee structure, and are beginning to implement program changes to actively involve more of our membership.

Change takes time so the next two or three years will be an exciting time for AIA Arkansas. The Strategic Plan will be published and made available to the entire membership later this year.

Grass Roots 2010 or "Snowmageddon" began smoothly. All arrived in Washington D.C. on time and ready to work. After a Gulf States Meeting, AIA Arkansas had a separate meeting to work on the new Strategic Plan. This was a productive meeting to get things moving.

The first full day was spent visiting the Arkansas Delegation on Capitol Hill. We were able to meet personally with Senators Pryor, Lincoln and Representatives Boozman, Berry, Snyder, and Ross. Issues important to Arkansas Architects were discussed at length. We were well received and in general were pleased with the response given to our concerns.

The weather was actually very nice and sunny in D.C. that day. However, predictions were that "Snowmageddon" was on the way. Jeff Herren and I were able to get a flight out at 6 a.m. the next morning and made it home safe and sound. Brent Stevenson, Frank Barksdale, David McKee, Jasen Goicoechea, Tim Maddox, Randy Palevliet, and Mark Evans were scheduled to fly out that afternoon. Well, the snow fell.

Three days later I received a cell phone call from Brent. They were in a car somewhere in the middle of Tennessee. It's a long drive from D.C., which gave them plenty of time to come up with an "impeachment" idea. As I understand it, "presidential abandonment" will be the cause for proceedings. We will see how this plays out. I was glad to hear they finally got home safely.

They all deserve your thanks.

## NOTICE

AIA National will be moving the Continuing Education Documentation from Oklahoma to Washington, DC.

Take a minute to log on and save a copy of your transcript as a PDF for your records.

Obtain a copy of your transcript at this web site or by calling 1-800-605-8229:

<http://sparky.occe.ou.edu/ouaia/authentication/login.cfm?role=Member>

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Save the Date  
October 21-23  
Little Rock



Statehouse  
Convention Center  
and Peabody Hotel

# Ash Grove Packaging

Ash Grove Cement Company has served the masonry and cement industry for over 125 years with quality products and first class service. In that same vein, Ash Grove Packaging continues to develop and improve our product line of Factory Pre-Blended Mortars and Grouts along with a complete line of Construction Products for the industry professional.

Ash Grove Packaging became one of the nation's first Spec Mix manufacturers of mortars 17 years ago. To improve our offering to the industry, Ash Grove Packaging is taking all of the positives of Factory Pre-Blended mortars and grouts and combining that with the knowledge and experience of the past to create a new and better Bulk Mortar System. Ash Grove Pro Mix products are in place and ready to meet your masonry or concrete products need. For further information or Spec sheets and MSDS sheets go to [www.ashgrovepkg.com](http://www.ashgrovepkg.com) and go to the architect and engineers section.

To help meet the needs of the design community, Ash Grove has become recognized as a provider for AIA learning unit hours. Ash Grove now has two presentations completed and approved for 1 LU hour each under the Health, Safety and Welfare section of your requirements.

The first presentation is *Specifying Mortars and Grouts* #3CB001 and is designed to take the mystery away from mortar selection. The second is *Mortar Testing* #3CB002 which is designed to help with both the proper testing and interpretation of test results for Mortars and Grouts. We are working on additional presentations for release later in 2010.

For further information please contact Charlie Boyd at 501-224-3372 or [cpboyd@ashgrovepkg.com](mailto:cpboyd@ashgrovepkg.com). I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your associates for a Lunch 'n' Learn. Thank you for your support and I am looking to having an opportunity to assist you with all of your masonry needs.

# New Additions at Antique Brick and Block

We are proud to announce the acquisition of Cooper Stone ([www.cooperstone.com](http://www.cooperstone.com)), thin veneer and full masonry natural quarried stone, Endicott Thin Brick/Tile ([www.endicott.com](http://www.endicott.com)), and Headwaters Construction Materials ([www.headwatersbp.com](http://www.headwatersbp.com)) major manufacturers of architectural cmu products. We have now become the most diversified full service brick, stone, block, and masonry accessories supplier in the state with a new Springdale, Ar showroom opening soon.

We are also happy to announce the addition of Clyde Blount to fill our newly created position as Manager of New Business Development, who will be assisting Jason Garner, VP of Sales, and Chuck Barr, Commercial Sales Mgr. to work with our sales staff and design firms statewide.

Our new division, **Antique Brick Outdoors**, is nearing completion at our Little Rock corporate office/showroom and will provide design professionals a unique opportunity to see many of our products in installed

applications. Stone columns, brick ovens, full masonry outdoor fireplaces, cooking and refrigeration displays, landscape features, and upscale outdoor furnishings are just some of the features you can view with your clients. Look for upcoming events you will be invited to attend such as CEU accredited seminars, wine & cheese and brick oven pizza and beer after-work socials beginning this spring and summer.

For more information contact us at 501.375.0060/800.587.0060 or visit our website [www.antiquebrickinc.com](http://www.antiquebrickinc.com).



*Antique Brick & Block  
Wednesday, April 21*

## Design Tactics for Stone Masonry Products

Fresh brick oven pizza, beverages & tour of the **brand new Antique Brick Outdoors** showroom and courtyard with outdoor fireplace and cooking center beginning at 4:30pm at 1609 E. 9th St. in Little Rock.

Seminar from 5:15p.m. - 6 p.m. for 1 LU.

Contact Chuck Barr at 501-375-0060 with any questions.

# Design for the New Decade

**AIA 2010 National Convention**  
**June 10-12**  
**Miami Beach Convention Center**

As a new decade begins, architects and design professionals continue to navigate through a difficult economic climate while rising to the challenge of creating livable communities.

Join the dialogue at our 2010 National Convention as we contemplate how the next 10 years could change the traditional practice of architecture.

Don't miss this convention. Registration is now open. Learn more at [www.aiaconvention.com/AIA2010/public/enter.aspx](http://www.aiaconvention.com/AIA2010/public/enter.aspx)



# Architecture School Creates Imprint at UA Press

*Collaborative publishing venture focuses on environmental design fields*

What began as a conversation about specific projects has blossomed into a unique and ambitious, cross-campus collaboration between the University of Arkansas Press and the Fay Jones School of Architecture.

About three years ago, Jeff Shannon, architecture school dean, talked with Larry Malley, director of the press, about getting faculty work published. Specifically he had in mind research Korydon Smith had done regarding the equity of housing for the elderly and the disabled in the South.

The resulting book, *Just Below the Line: Disability, Housing, and Equity in the South*, is part of a collaboration that will include works that fall into two areas. One category was born from two high-profile architects who lectured at the university: Peter Eisenman and Glenn Murcutt. The focus of this series has to do with “a kind of reading of the current state of affairs in design and perhaps a statement related to the way things might go, should go,” Shannon said.

One of these books by leading international figures in design might happen every two or three years.

The other is a broader sort of miscellaneous category that could hold anything the school takes interest in within the environmental design fields. This includes Smith’s book, the DVD documentary *Sacred Spaces: The Architecture of Fay Jones*, and a forthcoming book of essays about Jones.

All publications released under

this imprint will be designated by a special logo, which features Jones’ Thorncrown Chapel.

In 1999, the University of Arkansas Press published *Outside the Pale*, a general book about Jones’ architectural approach, with photographs of his projects, but the press had done nothing else in the field of architecture since.

This kind of collaborative relationship strongly appealed to Malley and Shannon.

“We decided that maybe there could be a collaboration that would really mean something for the university and the state, where two important, visible departments of the university could bring their separate but relative strengths together, in service of the university, and in our case that means the state as well,” Malley said. It’s something he hopes to repeat with other colleges and schools on campus.

Shannon said the relationship between the architecture school and the press is simple: “We generate the projects, we control the substance—and the university press will produce them.”

When the school has an idea for a book, they’ll work with the press regarding all aspects—including feasibility, design, production schedule, kind of paper and binding format. Shannon plans to establish an

editorial board, whose members can suggest potential authors and publications. In addition to representation from the school, the board will include national figures experienced with publication and the design professions.

*This imprint is a way to raise the visibility of the school nationally and internationally, something that should appeal to potential students, alumni and donors alike.*

*Just Below the Line* will be the first book to come from this new joint publishing venture. It is scheduled for release in May.

Smith, an associate professor of architecture, coauthored the book with Jennifer Webb and Brent T. Williams, associate professors of interior design and rehabilitation, respectively. The first work released under this collaboration was the Fay Jones DVD documentary, created by Larry Foley and Dale Carpenter, both journalism professors at the university. The press distributes the DVD for the school.

Forthcoming books include one by Eisenman, an American architect who established his New York firm in 1980. His book will be based on public lectures he gave here in September 2007. “He came here with the three lectures anticipating that this would become the initial manuscript for the book,” said Shannon, who is awaiting Eisenman’s manuscript.

Another is by Murcutt, an Australian architect who won the prestigious Pritzker Architecture Prize in 2002. He gave a lecture in April

2009 as part of the school’s renaming celebration; it was his last lecture in North America. David Buege, a University of Arkansas architecture professor, is currently editing the transcript of Murcutt’s lecture.

A collection of essays about Fay Jones and his architecture is also in the works. People who live in Jones-designed homes, including Roy Reed, a former journalist and professor, and Ellen Gilchrist, an author and professor, contributed essays. Buege, Shannon and Marlon Blackwell, a professor and chairman of the school’s architecture department, are working on another essay.

Shannon pursued this publication venture partly because of his love for books. “Even if I don’t get to read them, I like to have them around me,” said Shannon, whose office counters are stacked with books.

This imprint is a way to raise the visibility of the school nationally and internationally, something that should appeal to potential students, alumni and donors alike. Shannon also hopes this opportunity will inspire current faculty and help recruit prospective faculty.

Unlike researchers in other fields, such as science, faculty in the design fields of architecture and landscape architecture don’t have very many venues for publishing their research. This arrangement will provide that outlet. “I think if the design professions are to progress in terms of the credibility they offer the public, there has to be a strengthening of the intellectual component of the profession,” Shannon said.

## A Look at Lighting: Arkadelphia Sports Complex

Arkadelphia is expected to save just over \$220,000 over the next 25 years because of the energy-efficient sports lighting for fields at their 78-acre Youth Sports Complex.

City officials chose cutting-edge, energy-efficient sports lighting to meet the facility's needs. Compared to other lighting systems available, theirs uses fewer light fixtures and offers significant savings in energy and operating costs.

The lights are equipped with an automated on/off control and monitoring system. This system will turn the lights on/off closer to game times, saving energy and reducing staff time. It will also provide reports on field usage to help the city determine user fees and manage the complex.

The city will see additional savings because of the lights' 25-year warranty, which covers all lamp replacements and maintenance for the next 25 years.

The Youth Sports Complex was the result of a citywide effort to unify youth recreation programs in Arkadelphia. A one-cent sales tax funded the complex, an aquatic park, and a recreation center.

For more information about energy-efficient sports lighting, contact Musco Lighting at 800/825-6030 or [lighting@musco.com](mailto:lighting@musco.com).

## Stanley Named Executive of the Year at Arkansas Business of the Year Awards

Joe Stanley, CEO of Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects of Little Rock, the firm formed by the merger last year of Polk Stanley Rowland Curzon Porter Architects and The Wilcox Group, was named Arkansas Business Executive of the Year for 2009.

More than 700 people gathered in the Wally Allen Ballroom of the Statehouse Convention Center to honor businesses, nonprofits and executives in six categories.

"This has got to be a mistake," Stanley said as he accepted the award.

Entrants in the Arkansas Business of the Year awards program are nominated by Arkansas Business readers. Winners are selected by an independent board of judges.

# JOBS

Post Your Job Openings  
on the AIA Arkansas Website

[www.aiaar.org/jobs.asp](http://www.aiaar.org/jobs.asp)

Members \$75  
Non-members \$150

## Continuing Education Achievements

Aaron McGinty has recently received recognition as a Certified Technology Specialist Designer (CTS-D) awarded by InfoComm International. He attended Pulaski Technical College and has held various responsibilities with Jay S. Stanley & Associates for eight years.

The CTS-D achievement demonstrates detailed knowledge of how to analyze, select and plan audiovisual communications systems including complete specifications, designing CAD

drawings and project coordination.

Jay Stanley & Associates is an audiovisual technology systems integrator with offices in North Little Rock. Recent projects include the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center, Witt Stephens Nature Center and the Arkansas House of Representatives. InfoComm International is the trade association of the professional audiovisual and information communications industries.



CURTIS STOUT



**PRESENT:**

**Innovative Light Management Strategies  
for Smart Buildings of the Future**

Register with  
Megan Gardisser  
[mdgardisser@chstout.com](mailto:mdgardisser@chstout.com)

Thursday, April 22nd  
3-6PM Peabody Hotel  
AIA CEU Credit Offered

**OVERVIEW:** Innovative lighting strategies successfully tackle energy waste making light control a key component of any LEED building. Learn how total light management can cut up to 60% of lighting energy usage in buildings without sacrificing comfort and productivity.

# Leading the Industry with Innovative Construction

**B**aldwin & Shell Construction Company “builds what they believe” and is proud to announce its new corporate headquarters was awarded LEED Gold Certification by the U.S. Green Building Council for outstanding leadership in energy conservation and environmental design.



The building consists of tilt-up concrete panels and many local Arkansas resources, such as Arkansas Slate. The new headquarters is the *first* construction company headquarters in the state of Arkansas, certified as a “Green Building.”

Baldwin & Shell has concentrated its efforts on medical, religious and educational facility construction. The company has also been recognized as an expert in

historical restoration and renovation as well as the clear choice of Owners developing unique and prestigious projects. A proven track record for more than 64 years serving only Arkansas clients has made Baldwin & Shell both a unique

and successful company. Adapting to a rapidly changing construction industry, with more than 300 employees in three fully staffed offices located in Rogers, Jonesboro, and Little Rock provide construction services equal to those found in much

larger markets. As a General Contractor and Construction Manager other services provided are pre-construction services, total project budget analysis and project management with project contracts ranging from \$500 to over \$50 million.

## East-Harding, Inc. Grows to Meet Client Needs

**E**ast-Harding, Inc. is pleased to announce that Jon Callahan and Trey Williams have joined the team as Project Managers and Zane Garrett has joined as an Assistant Project Manager. East-Harding has been operating with a successful record in commercial construction since 1974 Jayunder the leadership of Bob East, Tom Harding and their capable team of construction professionals.

“Jon, Trey and Zane will make an immediate impact for our company as we grow our relationships with our valued clients and expand to meet the needs of new clients and their exciting projects,” said Van Tilbury, president. “These men exemplify our corporate philosophy of ‘Client Focused Construction’ and we look forward to them being a part of our company’s long-term growth,” he said.

East-Harding, Inc. operates throughout

Arkansas and is the construction manager/general contractor for projects at UAMS, UA Fayetteville, UALR, eSTEM public charter high school, public school districts in Dollarway, Sheridan and Pulaski County, the new Museum of Discovery and the new Central Arkansas Library System’s Children’s Library, among others. Recent projects include renovation of the Capital Hotel, Union/Deltic Building, new construction of 300 Third Residential Tower, Dickey-Stephens Park, Centers for Youth & Families Adolescent Psychiatric Facility, Camp Aldersgate, Arkansas Children’s Hospital laboratory expansion and the award-winning Arkansas Studies Institute—named by McGraw-Hill as the “Best Overall Construction Project 2009” in a five-state region.

For more information about East-Harding, visit [www.eastharding.com](http://www.eastharding.com).



*Trey Williams*



*Zane Garrett*

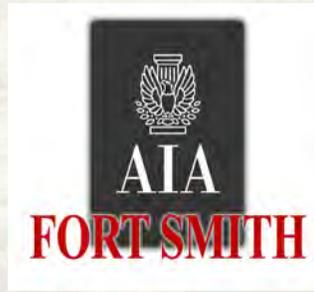


*Jon Callahan*

# SECTION NEWS

Periodically check the calendar at [www.aiaa.org](http://www.aiaa.org) for other events including more “lunch and learn” meetings and hard hat tours.

Please contact Section officers with any questions or comments. Through rain, sleet or snow (28 inches, but who’s counting – Grassroots, Washington D.C. 2010), we are here to help.



## AIA Fort Smith Section News

Last December, AIA Fort Smith Section gave a total of \$600 to the Salvation Army.

We will be awarding our annual \$1,000 Fay Jones School of Architecture Scholarship to a student this April. We are also working with University of Arkansas Fort Smith to give an annual \$500 scholarship to their Architectural CAD Department or a student of that department.

The Section will again keep their dues at the reduced rate of \$25 for 2010.

Associate AIA Members of our section are very active and are working on various projects with the City of Fort Smith. They have also been working with the local Habitat for Humanity in designing new home plans.

We are on track in scheduling and providing 8 to 10 CEUs within our section for 2010. Some of those will be Sustainable Design Units. We are also planning some programs that may not qualify for credit for broader appeal to both Associates and Architects both.

We are also working on increasing AIA Fort Smith’s area membership and reaching out to area members who are not aware of our sections activities.

Our Section continues to work on ways to promote, educate and make our profession more visible to the public in the River Valley.

## AIA Central Arkansas Report

We have formed an advisory group for the AIA Central Arkansas. The group’s members are Randy Palculict, Chair, Jennifer Herron, Past Chair, Chris East and Jasen Goicoechea. Our first official meeting was scheduled on April 2. We discussed the following:

- A public service announcement sponsored by AIA Central Arkansas
- AIA Tailgate 2010
- Strategies and ways we can help the AIA PAC thru volunteer work
- Contacting architects in our region to tell them what we are doing for the profession and to invite them to participation

Events planned for the remainder of the year:

**April 21**

Antique Brick & Block CEU / meet and greet

**May 11**

“Architectural Design for Public Spaces: CALS, a case study”

**June 25**

AIA Central Section  
Golf Tournament

**September 11 (tentative)**

AIA Central Section Tailgate

Two more lectures are to be scheduled in the fall in conjunction with the Friends of Architecture, included in the Art of Architecture lecture series 2010-2011.

## AIA Northwest Section News

Due to the success of last year’s Northwest Section Scholarship Golf Tournament, our section recently donated \$3,000 to sponsor three scholarships at the University of Arkansas Fay Jones School of Architecture. The students selected to receive the scholarships were acknowledged on April 7, at the School of Architecture 2010 Honors Recognition Banquet. Last year’s recipients were Brendan Boatwright, Even Davis and Stephanie Bedinghaus. The time and date for the Tenth Annual AIA Arkansas Northwest Section Scholarship Golf Tournament is being set with details to follow.

Northwest Section membership renewals will be emailed soon and we will maintain the reduced rate of \$20 for 2010. We would like to reach out to other architects in our section who are not members and invite them to join.

Through the first of the year, the Northwest Section has offered 6 CEUs by providing the credits for the Fay Jones School of Architecture lecture series. The lecture series is a great way to see innovative designers, architects and landscape architects, but to also meet our next generation of professionals.

We have also had joint events both with the ASID and the USGBC. On Friday, March 28, Karen Gill, with Steelcase, presented a seminar titled “Generations @ Work.” Course description: There are four distinct generations of workers in the workplace, all with different needs and desires. This course explores the characteristics and influences of each, as well as the potential impact and benefits they have on the workplace. The seminar was hosted by Renee Batara & Today’s Office and

# Delegation Says Architects 'Ready to Help' Nation Recover

David McKee  
AIA Arkansas Secretary

A delegation from AIA Arkansas attended AIA Grassroots 2010 Leadership and Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. in early February. The delegation included President Jerry Brackett, VP Frank Barksdale, Secretary David McKee, Section Chairs Tim Maddox, Mark Evans, Jeff Herren, and Randy Palculic. Also attending were Associate Director Jason Goicoechea and Executive Director Brent Stevenson.

The primary purpose of the conference was to meet with our Senators and Representatives to send the message that America's Architects stand ready to help our nation recover from the ongoing economic crisis and lay the foundation for long-term economic growth. As we met with our legislators the delegation presented AIA's key policy ideas that will invigorate not only the design and construction industry, but our nation as a whole.

The issues discussed followed the general premise that when creating legislation that will help the economy recover, policy makers should involve architects. As designers of the built environment and advocates for policies that create stronger, healthier and more sustainable communities, architects are a great resource.

## 1. *Help Struggling Communities Rebuild*

Rehabilitating and retrofitting abandoned and neglected properties will revitalize communities by creating jobs, reducing energy consumption, and encouraging business to return to vacant property. This can be accomplished by taking advantage of existing Federal programs such as Community Development Block Grants.

## 2. *Free Up Credit for*

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*America's Architects stand ready to help our nation recover from the ongoing economic crisis and lay the foundation for long-term economic growth.*

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## *Commercial Projects*

The AIA supports legislation that will continue to improve the commercial lending market and allow worthwhile projects to have access to capital.

## 3. *Expand the Energy Efficient Commercial Building Tax Deduction*

In order to get America building again, Congress should incentivize energy efficient new construction and renovations of existing buildings. The Legislators were asked to support the Expanding Building Efficiency Incentives Act.

## 4. *Provide Relief for Small Businesses*

The AIA believes that supporting small business is the fastest way to grow the economy and create jobs. The Legislators were asked to support the Small Business Financing

Investment Act.

## 5. *Support Funding for School Modernization*

Schools across the country are in desperate need of restoration. Modernized, green schools promote healthy, high achieving students; reduces the facilities operating costs through reduced energy use; and create jobs. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Green High Performing Schools Act if passed will provide billions toward the modernization of K-12 schools. The jobs created in the design and construction industries would be greatly beneficial to the overall economic recovery.

Our delegation was pleased with the response from all of our members of Congress who expressed an understanding of the issues and the primary goal of creating jobs. We were also treated to a 20" snowfall that shut down Washington, stranded our group and resulted in us *driving* back to Arkansas.

## Committee Works to Define Associate Challenges

The AIA State Board has recently approved a newly defined AIA Associate's Committee. We are seeking a diverse representation of Associate AIA members to serve.

The goal of the committee is to better define the needs of Associate Members and develop strategies to meet those needs. In these economic times, there may be unique challenges that Associate Members are facing. Section Chairs, Allied Members and Affiliates will be engaged by the Associate's Committee to discuss these challenges and implement solutions.

Young Architects in the making have a distinct energy and value that they bring to the profession. The AIA wants to support this energy through a variety of ways. Free educational opportunities can be developed to ease the path to licensure. The digital

resources we interface with as Associates can be updated to better fit our needs. We can recognize, identify, and encourage the many community service projects that Associate Members undertake in their communities. We can develop connections between Associates from all regions and strengthen the message we wish to send to our AIA leaders.

Committee members will serve a two-year term similar to the current Associate AIA Director/Assistant Director format. Any interested Associate AIA members can send their name to Jasen Goicoechea ([jgoicoechea@polkstanleywilcox.com](mailto:jgoicoechea@polkstanleywilcox.com)) or Rachel Smith ([rsmith@mahgarch.com](mailto:rsmith@mahgarch.com)) for more information.

We hope to have the committee members established by April so we can begin defining goals for 2010.

# SGN Recap 2010: A Call to Action!

Michael Lejong, AIA, LEED AP  
MAHG Architecture – Fort Smith  
AIA Arkansas Treasurer  
SGN Representative

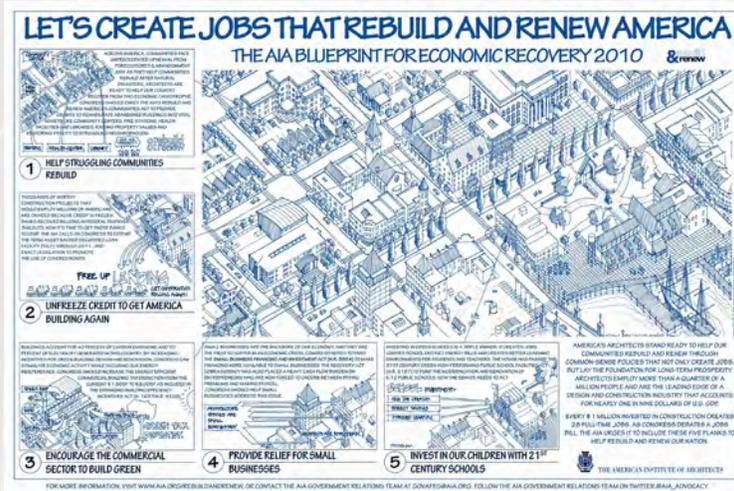
In the days proceeding “Snow-mageddon 2010,” AIA Arkansas SGN representatives, Phil Purifoy and Michael Lejong, gathered with other members of the State Government Network (SGN) on February 2 in Washington, D.C. at the AIA National Headquarters Board Room to discuss legislative priorities for the coming year and to talk about issues of nationwide importance. The SGN was created in 1991 as part of an initiative to increase government affairs outreach and legislative assistance. Representatives from every state component meet regularly to improve communication and outreach on government affairs issues, identify emerging and priority issues and share best practices.

George Miller (AIA President), Clark Manus (AIA First Vice President/President-elect), Mickey Jacob (AIA Vice President/Chair of the Board Advocacy Committee) and Paul Mendelsohn (Vice President, Government and Community Relations, AIA National) opened this year’s proceedings with their thoughts about the importance of architects being advocates. In a time while the economy is sluggish, the architect acting as a leader/director/advocate is more significant than ever. Architects can shape our communities and while resources are scarce, architects can help communities plan for the current economic stress and the tough times that may still lay ahead for economic recovery.

The group had a lengthy panel discussion on political action committees and grassroots advocacy. There were panel discussions on code advocacy, emerging professionals, sustainably initiatives and licensure issues. The group also had interactive dialogues with representatives from the International Codes Council (ICC) and the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) to identify key areas of collaboration. These representatives also gave presentations to update the attendees on green building codes, the Federal economic stimulus plan, and voter surveys on architecture, while other time was specifically reserved for discussions on trends and strategy sharing. These discussions focused mainly on pushing forward with the Institute’s legislative priorities despite hurdles that may arise due to the poor economic conditions of many states.

The day wrapped up with a “state of the economy” address and introduction of AIA’s plan of action for economic recovery. At the time we meet, surveys indicated that 17% of all architecture  
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employees nationally were out of jobs. This information did not account for part-time reductions in staff, furloughs and other unpaid leave. Although the economic recovery package has started to infiltrate the financial system, all markers indicate that it will be another weak year before recovery begins. By December 2009, only about 25% of the stimulus funds have been spent and little of that on vertical projects that affect architects. By the end of 2010, about 2/3 of the stimulus funds should be released. The remainder of the funds will be slow to hit the economy.



In the days following the SGN meeting, representatives from all states, including Arkansas, took to Capitol Hill with AIA’s 2010 Blueprint for Action and Economic Recovery with creation of jobs from vertical construction versus horizontal being the main thrust.

• **Rebuild and Renew America’s Communities** – provide funding for community development through block grants – which in turn are an effective tool for job creation.

- **Make Credit Available for Commercial Building Projects** – extend dead line for Term Asset-Backed Securities Loan Facility – every \$1million invested in design and construction projects create 28.5 jobs.
- **Expand the Energy Efficient Commercial Building Tax Deduction** – enlarge the Energy Efficient Commercial Building Tax Deduction from \$1.80 to \$3.00 per square foot.
- **Provide Relief for Small Business** (65% of job growth in the US) – Lending Bill 3854–(presently in the Senate) will support \$44 million in lending and create or save 1.3 million jobs, and address COBRA insurance.
- **Support Funding for Modernization of Schools** – a three fold benefit. Creates jobs in design and construction. The 21st Century Green High-Performance Public School Facilities Act (HR 2187) would provide more energy efficient schools and a better environment for students thereby investing in the future of our State.

Architects have the solutions and the bi-partisan ideas to ‘Rebuild and Renew’ our communities. Remember: this is your profession, your life and your chance to get your voice heard. Get involved, “if you’re not at the table, it means you’re on the menu!”

If you would like more information on State Government Network (SGN) and other AIA advocacy issues please visit the AIA website at [www.aia.org/advocacy](http://www.aia.org/advocacy).

# Five Award Winners Tied to Fay Jones Architecture School

## *Blackwell, Community Design Center amid top residential projects*

The Fay Jones School of Architecture and its associates made quite an impression on judges of the recent *Residential Architect* Design Awards. Five of the 26 award-winners have a connection to the school at the University of Arkansas.

The 11th annual awards contest garnered 978 entries in 16 categories, making it the country's most competitive residential architecture awards program, according to the magazine's Web site. The jury selected 26 projects for honors, including 19 Merit awards, six Grand awards and one Project of the Year award. Winning projects will appear in the May/June issue of *Residential Architect* magazine and on its Web site.

The Grand Award winner in the bunch was professor Marlon Blackwell for his design of the L-Stack House, his Fayetteville residence. Done in collaboration with his partner, Ati Blackwell, this design won in the category for custom homes of 3,000 square feet or less. The urban grid and the modest scale of existing houses in the neighborhood are enhanced through a strategy of bridging and stacking of forms spanning the seasonal creek that diagonally traverses the site.

The resulting scheme is an 'L' configuration that subdivides the interior program and the site into private and public spaces. A carefully positioned glass-enclosed stairway hinges together the two 18-foot-wide boxes, clad in a Brazilian

redwood rain-screen, that form the house structure.

"It's a stubbornly urban response," Blackwell said. "The house as bridge becomes vital through its negotiation between the city and what nature provided us."

In the On the Boards category, the University of Arkansas Community Design Center won a Merit Award for the Porchscapes design, a 43-unit affordable housing neighborhood intended to show low-impact development technologies in water management. This makes the eighth national design award this project has won for the Community Design Center, an outreach program of the architecture school.

"We are pleased that our neighborhood design for low-income populations might be seen as a model for all market grades of residential development, and appreciate the recognition from the design community," said Steve Luoni, director of the center.

Larry Scarpa of Pugh and Scarpa Architects in Santa Monica, Calif., along with Angela Brooks, won a Merit Award in the Affordable category. This winning project, Step Up on Fifth in downtown Santa Monica, Calif., provides housing, support services and rehabilitation for the homeless and mentally disabled. Scarpa was the school's visiting Fay Jones Chair in Architecture last year.

Tom Kundig of Olson Kundig Architects in Seattle garnered two Merit Awards. His single-room Salt Spring Island Cabin in Salt Spring, British Columbia, won in the Architectural Design Detail category, and his steel and concrete Montecito Residence, located in the fire-prone Toro Canyon area near Santa Barbara, Calif., won in the category for custom homes of more than 3,000 square feet. Kundig, who is the fall 2010 John G. Williams Distinguished Professor, will also speak March 29 at Vol Walker Hall's Ken Shollmier Lecture Hall as part of the school's lecture series.

"With accolades going to projects and firms across the country, it's remarkable that roughly one-fifth of the contest's award-winners have ties to this school," said Jeff Shannon, dean of the architecture school. "It's indicative of the high quality of work being produced here, and of the company we keep."

The awards jury included six distinguished architects: Ed Binkley, AIA, Ed Binkley Design, Oviedo, Fla.; Louise Harpman, Assoc. AIA, Specht Harpman, Austin, Texas; Jennifer Luce, AIA, Luce et Studio, San Diego; John V. Mutlow, FAIA, RIBA, University of Southern California School of Architecture, Los Angeles; Julie Snow, FAIA, Julie Snow Architects, Minneapolis; and Richard Williams, FAIA, Richard Williams Architects, Washington, D.C.

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## **UA Press Releases Jones DVD**

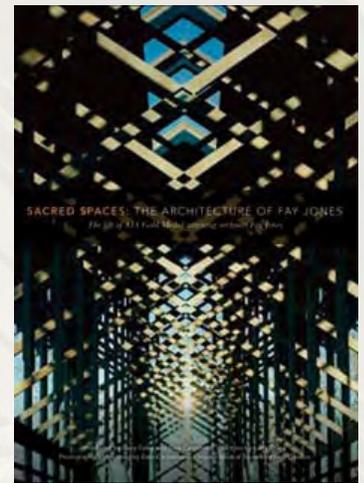
The “Sacred Spaces” filmmakers recently won the Best of Festival King Foundation Award in the Broadcast Education Association’s Festival of Media Arts. The story of architect Fay Jones captivated filmmakers Dale Carpenter and Larry Foley. They, in turn, captured his life and work in the documentary *Sacred Spaces: The Architecture of Fay Jones*.

The 60-minute film is available on DVD, as part of a new collaboration between the [University of Arkansas Press](#) and the university’s Fay Jones School of Architecture.

Carpenter and Foley, both journalism professors at the university, spent about a year and a half on *Sacred Spaces*. The film premiered in Giffels Auditorium in Old Main, during the April 2009 ceremony to rename the school for Jones, who died in 2004. Its production was partly funded by a grant from the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program and by an endowment to the school by Don and Ellen Edmondson, former Jones clients. Bonus features on the DVD include the renaming ceremony and a symposium discussing Jones and his architecture.

Jones, an Arkansas native, was in the first class of architecture students at the university, taught at the architecture school for 35 years and served as its first dean. In 2000, The American Institute of Architects named Jones one of the 10 most influential architects of the 20th century and recognized his Thorncrown Chapel as the fourth most significant structure of the 20th century.

“I’ve always liked his organic style of architecture, of wood and glass and being out among nature. But as I got into the program, I became a huge fan of Fay Jones,” Foley said. “I began to realize that not only was he



a great architect—an architect who brought a lot of attention to our university and to this part of the country—but he was a brilliantly creative and talented man who touched a lot of lives.”

The film begins with footage of Peter Jennings introducing Jones at the 1990 ceremony in Washington, D.C., where he’s being honored as a Gold Medal recipient by the AIA. The filmmakers interviewed Jones’ wife and daughters, as well as former clients, students and colleagues. With Jones’ work, they chose to show structures representative of his career, along with interviews with the clients. These include several Arkansas clients: Glenn and Alma Parsons’ home in Springdale, Roy and Norma Reed’s home in Hogeeye, and the Edmondsons’ home on Crowley’s Ridge in Forrest City.

The filmmakers keyed in on defining moments in Jones’ life and career, and tenaciously sought images and sounds to represent them. They also stumbled upon many Jones stories they wanted to share: that his ashes are scattered at Thorncrown; that he considered the Fulbright Peace Fountain the “exclamation point” of his career; and that he continued to create after being afflicted by Parkinson’s disease, even sketching his concept of a Sept. 11 memorial.

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