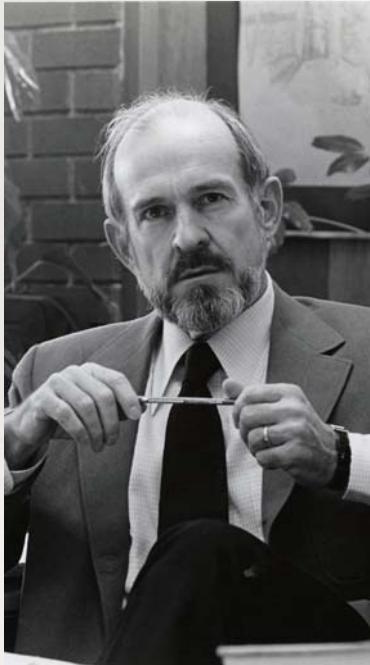


COLUMNS

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



Fay Jones, FAIA

(Courtesy Fay Jones Collection, Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.)

Inside This Issue

Blackwell, See Join College of Fellows	2
Legislative Issues Update	3
UA Names School In Honor of Fay Jones	4
Sections Plan Annual Golf Tournaments	5
Blackwell Wins Award For Gentry Library	7
Arkansas Officers Attend Grassroots	8
Classified Ads: Positions Available	12

From the President

'Oh My,' What a Start ...

AIA ARKANSAS PRESIDENT WALLIE SPRICK

The year has started off in a frenzy for AIA Arkansas. The legislature is in session, the economy is shaky and there is the smell of federal stimulus money in the air.

On Jan. 9-10, the AIA Board held its annual planning retreat to discuss the year ahead. The economy was on everyone's mind and how it will affect architects in Arkansas in the future. The board's concerns included maintaining the membership by continuing to provide educational opportunities on the local level and at the State Convention, maintaining our Allied members and promoting our profession in the community during the challenging times ahead. Reports from the section chairs showed good member participation at functions and enthusiasm across the state.

The AIA Arkansas Web site (www.aiaar.org) is the place to find out what is going on with your state chapter. The Web site calendar is a place for all sections to post events for the whole year. Please post any information through Joie Ketcham at the state office. Check the Web site for lunch and learns, lectures, golf tournaments and much more.

Some dates to make note of:

- The State Board of Architects generally meets the third Thursday

of each month.

- The University of Arkansas will celebrate naming the School of Architecture in honor of Fay Jones, FAIA, April 3-5.
- The National AIA Convention is April 29-May 1 in San Francisco.
- The Central Section Golf Tournament is June 12 at the Country Club of Arkansas in Maumelle.
- Deadline for licensure renewal is July 31, 2009.

The AIA Arkansas Convention will be Oct. 22-24 in Hot Springs.

The 2009 legislature is in session. The AIA Legislative Committee is keeping a close eye on bills that may affect our profession. The AIA Arkansas ARCH-PAC still needs contributions to continue our efforts with legislators. (See Brent Stevenson's legislative report on Page 3 for what is going on at the state Capitol.)

On the National AIA scene, the 2009 Jury of Fellows from the American Institute of Architects elevated 112 AIA members to its prestigious College of Fellows. This is an honor awarded to members who have made significant contributions to the profession. AIA Arkansas is proud to have two of those new fellows. Jack F. See, Jr., AIA, a principal at Wittenberg, Delony & Davidson, Inc., Little Rock, in the Volunteer Work category, and Marlon Blackwell, AIA, who works out of his private firm, Marlon

(See President on Page 3)

Two Members Join AIA College of Fellows

AIA has elevated 112 architects – including AIA Arkansas members Marlon Blackwell, AIA, and Jack See, Jr., AIA, CEFPI – to its prestigious College of Fellows, an honor awarded to members who have made contributions of national significance to the profession. Out of a membership of more than 86,000, there are fewer than 2,600 AIA members distinguished with the honor of fellowship.

It is conferred on architects with at least 10 years of membership in the AIA who have made significant contributions in the following areas: the aesthetic, scientific and practical efficiency of the profession; the standards of architectural education, training and practice; the building industry through leadership in the AIA and other related professional organizations; advancement of living standards of people through an improved environment; and to society through significant public service. The new Fellows, who are entitled to use the designation “FAIA” following their names, will be invested in the College of Fellows at the 2009 AIA National Convention and Design Exposition in San Francisco on May 1.

Marlon Blackwell, FAIA

Blackwell was honored in Category 1—Design.

Born in Munich, Germany, in 1956, he is also a tenured professor at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. Work produced from his private practice, Marlon Blackwell Architect, has received national and international recognition through AIA design awards and architectural publications including Architecture, Arquine, A+U, Detail, Dwell, Southern Living, Architectural Record (with the honor of having the Keenan TowerHouse featured on the cover of the February 2001 issue), Architectural Review (2002 ar + d prize winner for the Moore HoneyHouse) and The Phaidon Atlas of Contemporary Architecture (2004). His projects have been featured in a number of design books and he has given lectures on his work at many institutions.

Blackwell was selected by a national jury as one of the top 40 designers under 40 years old in 1995. In 1998, the Architectural League of New York recognized him as an “Emerging Voice” in architecture. In January 2006, he was selected by The International Design Magazine as one of the *ID Forty: Undersung Heroes*.

He teaches fifth-year design studio, technology, and design detailing. In 1994, he co-founded the University of Arkansas Mexico Summer Urban Studio. He received his undergraduate degree from Auburn University in 1980 and a M. Arch II degree from Syracuse University in Florence in 1991.



Jack See, Jr., FAIA, CEFPI

See was honored in Category 5—Volunteer Work.

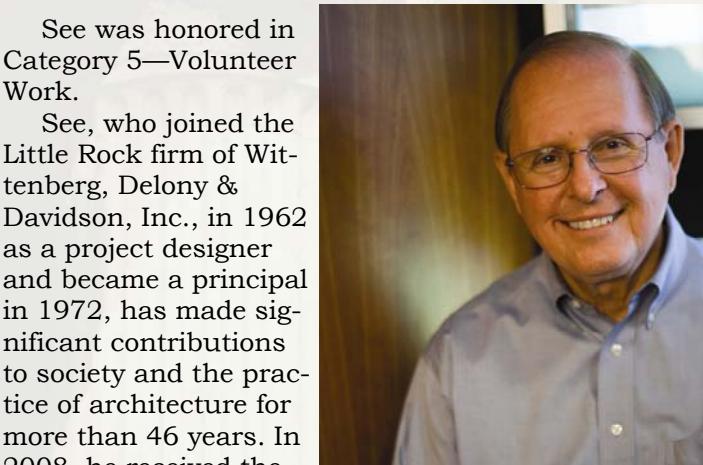
See, who joined the Little Rock firm of Wittenberg, Delony & Davidson, Inc., in 1962 as a project designer and became a principal in 1972, has made significant contributions to society and the practice of architecture for more than 46 years. In 2008, he received the

AIA Arkansas Fay Jones Gold Medal.

Before serving as Arkansas chapter president in 1984, he conducted the chapter’s Annual Planning Retreat and proposed a number of major new initiatives that the board adopted and that continue to this day. He also recruited a group of fellow AIA members to work together to form a statewide AIA Arkansas Education Committee, which recently updated construction standards in the Arkansas School Facility Manual.

Having been heavily involved with the University of Arkansas School of Architecture, he has proposed and helped to implement several significant programs to benefit the school’s architectural students, including the School of Architecture Professional Advisory Board, School of Architecture Development Committee and the Dean’s Circle. In 1997 he received the first Distinguished Service Award presented by the School of Architecture.

He received a Bachelor of Architecture and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Arkansas in 1958 and a Master of Architecture from Yale University in 1962.



President

(Continued From Page 1)

Blackwell Architect, Fayetteville, in the Design Category. Congratulations to both of these deserving members for their outstanding contributions to our profession.

Another very important bit of news is that AIA National members must now include a minimum of four hours of education in sustainable design within the 18 learning unit (LU) hours required annually. This change, effective Jan. 1, 2009, will apply to membership renewal beginning Jan. 1, 2010.

Of those 18 hours, eight must still address health, safety and welfare (HSW) education. All LU hours that meet the sustainable design continuing education criteria will also serve as HSW LU hours.

When appropriate, a single HSW course can also count toward the sustainable requirements; however, you still need to fulfill the entire 18 hour requirements.

For more information visit www.aia.org/ces_sustainabledesignrequirements.

The State of Arkansas requirements remain the same.

This year will be interesting and challenging, to say the least. AIA Arkansas and AIA National are here to help.

The National Web site, www.aia.org, offers a variety of articles and knowledge communities to benefit its members. Check them out and see what others are doing across the country.

Legislative Update

With the end of the 87th General Assembly rapidly approaching and having passed the deadline for the introduction of new bills, we find activity on a number of bills that have existed only as shell bills or have languished in committee for several weeks.

The following bills that AIA Arkansas is tracking have had the most recent and significant actions recently.

HB 2260 – By Rep. Kathy Webb of Blytheville - State Agencies (Energy Office; Aviation Fuel Data); Counties (Building Permits; Energy Code Adoption) - Municipalities. Sec. 1 Amends ACA 15-10-205(a), adding aviation fuel to the list of commodities on which the Arkansas Energy Office is required to collect data and administer emergency plans to allocate distribution, if necessary. Sec. 2 Amends ACA 15-10-205(b), authorizing the Energy Office to require a city or county that issues building permits for new construction to adopt the 2004 Arkansas Energy Code for New Building Construction. Reported Do

Pass from the Joint Committee on Energy on March 26. Section 2 of the bill authorizes the Energy Office of the Department of Economic Development to become an enforcement agency, charged with the responsibility for implementing the 2004 Energy Code.

SB 827 – By Sen. Percy Malone of Arkadelphia - State Agencies (Architects Board; Landscapers, Interior Designers Consolidated) Licensing. Sec. 1 Renames the Arkansas State Board of Architects as the Arkansas State Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, and Interior Designers. Sec. 2 Abolishes the State Board of Registered Interior Designers and transfers its powers to the State Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, and Interior Designers by a type 3 transfer. Sec. 3 Abolishes the State Board of Landscape Architects and transfers its powers by a type 3 transfer. Sec. 4 Amends ACA 17-15-102, making technical name changes

(See Legislative on Page 13)

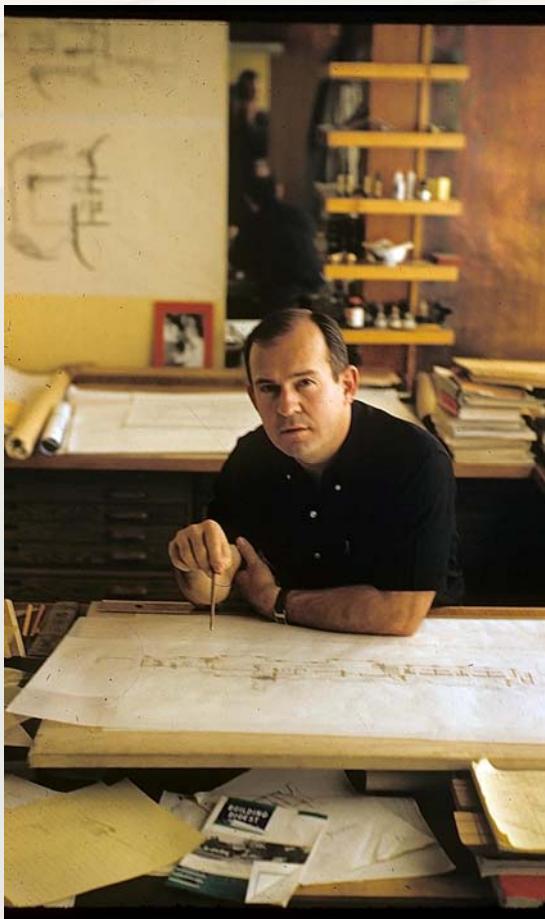


SAVE THE DATE
October 22-24, 2009

Golf Tournament
October 21, 2009

Contracted Hotels:
Embassy Suites
The Austin
The Arlington Hotel

**Stay Tuned for
More Details
In the next Issue
of Columns**



Jones at work in his office in the University of Arkansas Fine Arts Center, mid-1950s. (Photo by Ernie Jacks, courtesy Fay Jones Collection, Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.)

Related Events

The School of Architecture will celebrate its new name with a series of events to take place April 3-5. Plans include:

- A symposium from 1 to 4 p.m. Friday on Jones' work that will include Robert McCarter, a noted scholar of Jones' mentor Frank Lloyd Wright; Roy Reed, a former New York Times columnist who conducted an oral history with Jones; and Robert Ivy, editor-in-chief of Architectural Record and author of Jones' monograph.
- A lecture at 7 p.m. Friday by Glenn Murcutt, the 2002 Pritzker Prize laureate and the 2009 AIA Gold Medal honoree.
- A Sunday morning bus tour of Jones' Fayetteville projects led by his former partner Maurice Jennings.

(See Events on Page 5)

UA School of Architecture Named in Honor of Fay Jones

The University of Arkansas Board of Trustees voted Jan. 16 to name the School of Architecture in honor of the late architect Fay Jones, FAIA. The naming of the school is made possible by a multimillion-dollar gift, announced in February 2008, by Don and Ellen Edmondson of Forrest City, former clients of Jones.

In sum, the Edmondsons have contributed nearly \$12 million to the School of Architecture over the years.

"Thanks to the generosity of Don and Ellen Edmondson, we have a historic opportunity to name the School of Architecture in honor of Fay Jones," said G. David Gearhart, chancellor of the University of Arkansas. "Jones' international reputation helped to make the School of Architecture one of the nation's premier programs, and it is entirely appropriate for his name to be forever linked with the school and the University of Arkansas."

"We are proud to be the Fay Jones School of Architecture," said Dean Jeff Shannon, a former student of Jones who interned in his office. "We are tremendously grateful to Don and Ellen for the opportunity to honor Fay, and for this transformative gift that will allow us to build on our strengths and create new areas of excellence."

A native of El Dorado, Jones achieved international fame for designing soaring sacred spaces and modern homes warmed by native materials. He received numerous awards, culminating in the nation's highest architectural honor, the American Institute of Architects Gold Medal, presented in a 1990 White House ceremony. The AIA later honored Jones as one of the country's "10 most influential living architects" and ranked his masterwork, Thorncrown Chapel in Eureka Springs, as the fourth best building by an American architect in the 20th Century.

Jones attended the earliest architecture classes offered at the university, graduated in the first class of architecture students and eventually returned to teach for 35 years and serve as the school's first dean.

Among his students was Edmondson, a 1958 graduate of the university's Sam M. Walton College of Business. Edmondson credits his lifelong fascination with architecture to Jones' lectures on the subject in a freshman arts appreciation course.

"Fay inspired me to aspire, to do well in life, to reach those goals that I wanted to reach. And on top of that list was to live in a Fay Jones home," he recalled.

Thanks to a successful career directing franchise businesses, which included Kentucky Fried Chicken, a Holiday Inn and Taco Bell, Edmondson eventually realized his dream. He and his wife, Ellen, commissioned Jones to design their Forrest City home and just about every aspect of its furnishings, from the mailbox to letterhead, dinnerware and cocktail napkins.

The Edmondsons continue to enjoy their home after 29 years there, but say that the close relationship that they developed with Jones and his wife Mary Elizabeth "Gus" Jones was ultimately the most rewarding aspect of the project.

"We were blessed by this relationship, and now we have an op-

(See School on Page 5)

Hit the Links With AIA

Central Section At Country Club Of Arkansas

The 20th Annual AIA Arkansas Central Section Golf Tournament, sponsored by Innerplan Office Interiors, is scheduled for Friday, June 12, at the Country Club of Arkansas at 3 Country Club Circle in Maumelle.

The format is a two-man scramble, and the entry fee is \$120 per team, which includes green fee, cart, open driving range, lunch, gifts and prizes. The prizes include flight winners, longest drive, closest to the hole, putting contest and door prizes. Registration will begin at 7:15 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 8 a.m.

The registration deadline is May 29. For more information, contact Wallie Sprick at 501-376-6681.



Northwest Section At Stonebridge Meadows Golf Club

The Ninth Annual AIA Arkansas Northwest Section Scholarship Golf Tournament is set for Monday, May 4, at Stonebridge Meadows Golf Club at 3495 East Goff Road in Fayetteville.

The format is a four-man scramble with a shotgun start at 1 p.m., with registration and range open at 11:30 a.m., and golf, lunch and a putting contest at noon. Mulligans are available – two (per person) for \$30 or eight (per team) for \$100.

Fees are \$400 for a team and hole sponsorship (includes sign and tee); team only, \$300; and individual, \$75.

Proceeds benefit the University of Arkansas Architecture Scholarship Program.

For a registration form or more information, contact Thad Kelley at 479-841-5495 or trkelly@cromwell.com or Tim Cooper at 479-236-6629 or tim@cooperarchitects.com.

School

(Continued From Page 4)

portunity to pay Fay back for what he gave us," Edmondson said. "I always wanted the School of Architecture to be named after Fay, and a planned gift is the way we could do it. We hope that by making this commitment, we will inspire other people to support the School of Architecture."

Gus Jones said she was delighted by this latest development.

"I think Fay would be so pleased to have his name on the school he loved, where he spent so much of his life," she said. "This is all possible because of the Edmondsons' generosity – they are like modern-day Medicis in their support of art and architecture."

The School of Architecture began more than sixty years ago with architecture classes offered in response to the post-World War II building boom. The architecture program was recently ranked 20th in the nation in Design Intelligence's 10th Annual Survey of America's Best Architecture and Design Schools, considered definitive in the field.

The School of Architecture also was included with a rank of "notable distinction" in a new, comprehensive list of America's World-Class Schools of Architecture compiled by James P. Cramer, editor of Design Intelligence.

Events

(Continued From Page 4)

- The premier at 3:30 p.m. Saturday of "Sacred Spaces: The Architecture of Fay Jones," a documentary by award-winning filmmakers and University of Arkansas faculty Larry Foley and Dale Carpenter.

- An informal all-school barbecue at 5 p.m. Friday by the Peace Fountain; rain location second floor gallery of Vol Walker Hall.

- Formal dedication at 2 p.m. Saturday of the School's new name in front of Vol Walker Hall; rain location second floor gallery of Vol Walker.

- A semi-formal Celebration Banquet at 7 p.m. Saturday at *UARK Bowl*.

Jones' sketches, plans and models will be on display in the Fay Jones Archives on the lower floor of Mullins Library.

For more information and to register to attend, visit the School of Architecture's Web site at: architecture.uark.edu/514.php.

News in Brief

UALR Urban Planning & Policy Forum Moves

The UALR Urban Planning & Policy Forum has a new home in the CALS Butler Center for Arkansas Studies at 407 President Clinton Ave. in Little Rock.

Formerly the UALR Urban Studies & Design Project, it also has a new mission, evolving from its original goal of better planning and urban design for Central Arkansas. Established in 1992 by a \$2.5 million, 10-year Donaghey Foundation grant, the program has addressed urban design needs of Central Arkansas and its small towns. Working with more than 600 students and 250 clients, it has produced 200 community plans, including several that have contributed to the renaissance of downtown Little Rock and North Little Rock.

As the UALR Urban Planning & Policy Forum, its mission builds on the premise that informed discussion among civic leaders and planners, and more broadly the public, will help Central Arkansas to better make and communicate planning policy for its built environment. The Forum will address issues of urbanism in the Central Arkansas metropolitan environment — researching, planning and spreading a shared vision for our metropolitan area, as it emerges through the participation of civic leaders, public and private.

The office can be contacted by phone at 501-320-5780 or by fax at 501-537-4560.

Museum May Open Later Than Forecast

An American art museum project headed by Wal-Mart heiress Alice Walton may not be completed until a year or so later than the originally forecast 2010 date, the Associated Press reported earlier this month.

The Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, located on 100 acres near downtown Bentonville, is ex-

pected to house one of the world's greatest collections of American art. World-renowned architect Moshe Safdie is designing the wood and glass structure. The museum in Northwest Arkansas will feature the works of Winslow Homer, John Singer Sargent and Gilbert Stuart.

Museum officials have declined to comment, but Associate Director Sandy Edwards said in a statement that an undertaking of this significance and complexity takes time and must be done well. Edwards said the museum is evaluating the project's design and construction plans as well as the timeline needed to complete the plans.

Crystal Bridges will consist of a complex that will incorporate a creek, a 250-seat auditorium, trails and spaces for outdoor events. Walton, members of her family and a family foundation have given at least \$317 million to the project, and court documents show the museum has at least \$488 million in assets.

Arkansas Firms Win South-Central Awards

Forty-five South-Central construction and design projects received Best of 2008 recognition from *South Central Construction* magazine during a recent awards luncheon at Memphis. The following were among the winners from Arkansas.

Best Public Design: Leflar Law School addition, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, submitted by Cromwell Architects Engineers, Inc., Little Rock.

An Award of Excellence for Public Design went to J. B. Hunt Transportation Services Center for Academic Excellence, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, submitted by Wittenberg Delony & Davidson, Inc., Architects, Fayetteville.

Award of Merit winners were:
Renovation/Restoration: John Brown University Cathedral Cladding, Siloam Springs, submitted by Flintco, Inc., Springdale.

Private Building: Promenade at Chenal, Little Rock, submitted by VCC, Little Rock.

Three at Cromwell Earn LEED Accreditation

Cromwell Architects Engineers has announced three new Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Accredited Professionals.

Blake Jackson, Assoc. AIA, an intern architect, Anthony Jacuzzi, PE, a registered engineer, and John Lai, AIA, a registered architect, have all demonstrated a thorough understanding of green building practices and principles and the LEED Rating System. Jackson, Jacuzzi and Lai are currently employed at Cromwell Architects Engineers. Cromwell, which was responsible for the first LEED Certified building in Arkansas, now has 14 LEED APs.

Certified Staff At Jay Stanley

New education and technology certifications at Jay Stanley & Associates include Aaron McGinty, *Certified Technology Specialist in Design*; Carl Griffith, *Fiber Optic Design and Installation*; and John Prescott, *Synergetic Audio Concepts*, the premier educational resource for advanced audio study and engineering. All are one-week schools and include comprehensive testing. Congratulations!

Cromwell Announces Three New Officers

The Board of Directors of Cromwell Architects Engineers announced the election of three new officers at its annual meeting on March 3.

They are Charles J. Penix, AIA, LEED AP, chairman and chief executive officer; Gregory B. Cockmon, AIA, president; and Daniel K. Fowler, AIA, chief operating officer.

Blackwell Wins National Honors for Gentry Library

Marlon Blackwell, AIA, devoted seven years to the transformation of a 100-year-old hardware store into the Gentry Library. Recently the hard work has paid off: His sleek hybrid of contemporary design and historic artifact has won a 2009 National Library Design Award from the American Institute of Architects and the American Library Association/Library Administration and Management Association.

One of eight winners selected from more than 100 entrants, the Gentry Library is the first Arkansas library to win this award. The project also was featured in the October 2008 issue of *Architectural Record* devoted to "design with conscience."

Blackwell is pleased about the national award and coverage, but he's most proud of the library's new role as a linchpin for downtown Gentry.

"The real reward is seeing how much the library is used, and the contribution good architecture can make to a community," Blackwell said. The numbers back him up: Gentry Library memberships have doubled since the new facility opened, and today 1,900 plus citizens, almost 80 percent of the town's population, have library cards to check out books.

"The library is well used, and the award is well deserved," said Jim Furgason, chair of the library board. "People walk into the library, stop, look around and say, 'Wow.' That expresses our thoughts perfectly about what Marlon has done."

Wes Hogue, mayor of Gentry, said: "The new library really energized the downtown district. Now we have parking issues, which is a nice problem to have — I'll take that over a vacant downtown any day."

The library is the first civic project completed by Blackwell's firm, Marlon Blackwell Architect, and came with its fair share of headaches, including structural issues and moisture damage in the existing building.

"The biggest challenge was to maintain our vision and keep within the construction budget, which was incredibly modest," Blackwell said. "Fortunately the mayor, the library board and the city council helped us stay the course."

It took a millage and rebidding the project four times to build the library at \$108 per square foot, an extremely lean budget for a public project (the library facilities for Fayetteville and Rogers, for example, ran well over \$200 per square foot).

As a return on this investment, the people of Gentry now enjoy a nearly 12,000-square-foot facility where past and present coexist seamlessly, from the lovingly restored pressed tin ceilings to the re-finished heartwood pine floors and modern glazing systems.

In addition to housing the requisite books and computers, the library showcases historic photographs, vintage clothing and other artifacts from Gentry's past.

A community room, plaza and pocket park set the stage for lectures, book fairs and other such civic events.

The awards jury, which included architects and librarians, praised the project as "unabashedly modern yet very respectful of the qualities of the existing building" and noted that the Gentry Library "raises the level of expectations for all small towns. ... The town is to be complimented for its commitment to respecting its heritage while providing a new center of community pride."

In mid-July, Blackwell and representatives from the City of Gentry will travel to the American Library Association Annual Conference in Chicago to accept the award. The project will be part of an exhibition of outstanding library designs, as well.

For more information on the 2009 AIA/ALA Library Building Awards visit the AIA Web site at www.aia.org



A glass curtain wall invites those passing by to check out the Gentry Library.

Grassroots Report

Leadership and Legislative Conference

The recent Grassroots workshops and seminars in Washington, D.C., focused on developing leaders in the architectural profession, community involvement and action. Several sessions were structured to help component and section officers build strong volunteers, promote active membership and encourage emerging professionals to participate in AIA.

The conference was well attended by AIA members from across the country. The Arkansas delegation included four section chairs: Jeff Herren, Northeast; Mark Evans, Fort Smith; Larry Perkin, Northwest; Jennifer Herron, Central; as well as Chris Sullivan, our Associates director; and AIA officers Michael LeJong, secretary and convention chair; Jerry Brackett, vice president; Wallie Sprick, president; and Brent Stevenson, AIA Arkansas executive director.

The group attended the Gulf States Regional Meeting where the list of the 2009 AIA Fellows was announced. The Gulf States Region had five members selected by the College of Fellows. This large number represented 56 percent of the submittals from the Gulf States Region, which could be attributed to the Fellowship Workshop held in New Orleans last fall.

Almost 900 of the Grassroots participants visited his or her state's legislators on Capitol Hill to push the AIA's comprehensive plan for the economic recovery package, Rebuild and Renew. The plan urges Congress to prioritize funding for projects that will stimulate the design and construction industry and enable architects to help create safe, modern infrastructures and energy efficient buildings. The AIA's plan advises Congress to fund projects within existing federal programs that can begin within 24 months of the bill's enactment as well as investing in long-term projects.

The Arkansas delegation was able to personally meet with our two state senators and a representative from each of our congressional offices. The message we left on Capitol Hill was that the economic recovery offers the nation a chance to not only build, but to also build better, greener buildings and more livable communities. Another one of our goals was to educate our leaders and policymakers that the stimulus bills should fund not only projects that are "shovel-ready," but those that have the best chance of succeeding. We asked our lawmakers to draw on the talents and expertise of our nation's design professionals to help improve our communities.

Now that the economic stimulus bill has been signed into law, we must be ready to work closely with state and local officials to help them use the resources efficiently. Dollars will be flowing to individual states for projects they hope to begin as soon as possible. Our elected leaders need the advice and counsel of architects to ensure that we do, in fact, build better.

Although this package of legislation is intended to help, the economic recovery may take a long time. The national AIA can help be a resource for information during this recession. Visit the national Web site: www.aia.org and check out the "Navigating the Economy" section.

Chamber Study Finds Cost Of Providing Employee Benefits Continues to Rise Sharply

Businesses of all sizes have seen the cost of providing certain benefits to employees rise dramatically from 2006 to 2007, according to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's 2008 Employee Benefits Study.

In 2007, the cost of providing health insurance rose 15 percent, averaging \$4,559 per employee, up from \$3,961 in 2006. The cost of retirement and savings benefits increased 14 percent, from \$2,356 per employee to \$2,694 per employee.

"**This study** shows the ever-increasing cost pressures businesses of all sizes are facing in their efforts to provide health insurance to employees – in addition to the significant economic headwinds posed by the economic downturn," said Randel Johnson, the U.S. Chamber's vice president of labor, immigration and employee benefits.

The study also shows that as the economy slowed in 2007, employers of all sizes began scaling back on employee benefits. The average dollar amount that employees received in benefits decreased from \$21,527 in '06 to \$18,496 in '07.

The study details the latest benchmarking data on employee benefits for U.S. businesses. The data are derived from the 2007 payroll expenditures of a cross-section of more than 250 companies of various sizes, industries, and geographic regions.



Brent Stevenson (left), Wallie Sprick, AIA, in D.C.
Brent Stevenson, Wallie Sprick, president; and Brent Stevenson,
AIA Arkansas executive director.

Gold Ribbon Sponsors

Acme Brick Company

10921 Maumelle Blvd.
Maumelle, AR 72113
501.812.5574

Mike Anderson, John Bufford, Greg Smith

Digital Entertainment Systems

2349 W. Hudson Rd.
Rogers, AR 72756
479.621.8889

Shaun Carver, Morgan Peek, Brian Powell

Nabholz Construction Corporation

612 Garland
Conway, AR 72032
501.505.5800

Stan Hobbs, AIA, Bill Hannah, Brad Hegeman

Ramsey Krug Farrell & Lensing, Inc.

P.O. Box 251510
Little Rock, AR 72225
501.664.7705

Alfred L. Williams, Kevin Bruick, Ken Estes

Southern Reprographics, Inc.

P.O. Box 1878
Little Rock, AR 72203
501.372.4011

Phillip McColey, Pam Brawley, Lance Farris

Jay S. Stanley & Associates, Inc.

5313 McClanahan Drive, Suite G5
North Little Rock, AR 72116
501.758.8029

Jay Stanley, Scott Stanley, Logan Campbell

Today's Office Inc.

717 W. 7th
Little Rock, AR 72201
501.375.5050

Rhonda Bradley, Missy Holley, Keeley Claude

2009 AIA Arkansas Officers

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President
Wallie Sprick, AIA
Wittenberg, Delony & Davidson, Inc.

Vice President
Jerry Brackett, AIA
Brackett-Krennerich and Associates

Treasurer
Frank Barksdale, AIA
AMR Architects, Inc.

Secretary
Michael LeJong, AIA
MAHG Architecture, Inc.

Past President
Thad Kelly, AIA
Cromwell Architects Engineers

COMMUNICATIONS

Mark Cahoon, AIA, Chair
CahoonSteiling / Studio

Wallie Sprick, AIA
Wittenberg, Delony & Davidson, Inc.

Wesley Walls, AIA
Wilcox Group/Architects

Andrijana Vukovich, Assoc. AIA

SECTION CHAIRS

Central
Jennifer Herron, AIA
Herron Horton Architects, Inc.

East Arkansas
Jeff Herren, AIA
Brackett Krennerich Architects

Fort Smith
Mark Evans, AIA
E Squared Architecture & Interior Design, P.A.

Northwest
Larry Perkin, AIA
Hight Jackson Associates PA

Silver Ribbon Co-Sponsors

Block USA

3116 Adams St.
Little Rock, AR 72204
501.296.9799
Bob Faust

Curtis H. Stout, Inc.

2400 Cantrell Road #100
Little Rock, AR 72202
501.374.6694
Becky Major, Megan Gardisser

DuPont Tyvek®

171 Mountain Valley Dr.
Maumelle, AR 72113
501.804.7889
Mark Edds, CSI, CDT

Hubble-Mitchell & Associates, Inc.

1023 West 3rd Street
Little Rock, AR 72201
501.312.2700
Chris Hubble, Karl Klopfenstein

Innerplan Office Interiors

7001 Innerplan Drive
Maumelle, AR 72113
501.371.0300
Chris Cerrato, Jim Narup

Johnsonite

16910 Mun Road
Chagrine Falls, OH 44023
800.899.8916
Jeff Arnim, Jeff Krejsa

KI/Glen Jones & Associates

107 Cherrybark Lane
Vicksburg, MS 39180
501.228.9605
Glen Jones, Teresa Snook

Kinco Constructors, LLC

12600 Lawson Road
Little Rock, AR 72210
501.225.7606
Art Kinnaman, Tom Mitchell

Lighting Power & Solutions, Inc.

217 N. Chester
Little Rock, AR 72201
501.374.2155
Ashley Gartman, Melissa Stickford

Long Sales Agency

914 Barber
Little Rock, AR 72202
501.374.3088
Randall Long, James Long

Workplace Resource of Little Rock

400 Louisiana Street
Little Rock, AR 72201
501.244.9696
Shannon Montgomery

(For information on the
Allied Membership Program,
please visit the AIA Arkansas Web site
at aiaar.org.)

Welcome
New Allied Members!

BLUE RIBBON PARTNERS**Viridian**

100 Gamble Road
Little Rock, AR 72211
Matt Bell | 501.227.0648

Guide Profiles Martha Jane Murray's 'Green' Sensibilities and Activities

Martha Jane Murray, AIA, of Wilcox Group/Architects is the subject of a cover story on the new issue of the *Arkansas Green Guide*, a magazine published by Arkansas Business Publishing Group. The article includes information about her energy benefit program, HEAL Arkansas.

The guide, which was inserted in the March 30 issue of *Arkansas Business*, profiles the people, companies and technologies in Arkansas that are moving our state toward a more environmentally sound, sustainable way of life at work and at home.

Blue Ribbon Partners

Alessi-Keyes Construction Co.
P.O. Box 25414
Little Rock, AR 72221
501.225.6699
Cloud N. Keyes

All-Storage Products
P.O. Box 22266
Little Rock, AR 72221
501.666.8600
Tom Garner

Antique Brick & Block
1609 E. 9th St.
Little Rock, AR 72202
501.375.0060
Chuck Barr

Applied Technology Group
P.O. Box 16235
Little Rock, AR 72231
501.372.2373
Jeff Jenkins

Architectural Solutions, LLC
2341 E. 8th St.
North Little Rock, AR 72114
501.945.5522
Scott Cooper

Ash Grove Packaging
10816 Executive Center Drive
Little Rock, AR 72211
501.224.3372
Charles Boyd

Baldridge Designer Concrete
6948 Alcoa Rd., Ste. J
Benton, AR 72015
501.831.4242
Danny Baldridge

Bigelow Commercial
3 Garden Oaks Lane
Maumelle, AR 72113
501.517.3230
Andy McMahan

bpi Arkansas
1316 North Hills Blvd., Ste. 1
North Little Rock, AR 72114
501.490.1924
Kelley Adams

Central States Manufacturing Inc.
302 Jane Place
Lowell, AR 72745
800.356.2733
Marty Nance

CertainTeed Corporation
105 B Dodson Terrace
Hot Springs, AR 71913
501.276.3509
Frances Sublette

Coreslab Structures (ARK), Inc.
P. O. Box 1026
Conway, AR 72033-1026
501.329.3763
Greg Poirier

Crafton Tull Sparks & Associates, Inc.
10825 Financial Centre Pkwy., Ste. 300
Little Rock, AR 72211-3554
501.664.3245
Kenneth L. Jones, P. E.

Curtis Stout A/V
2400 Cantrell Road
Little Rock, AR 72202
501.255.1149
David Crook

DFI Architectural Signs, Inc.
219 W. 7th
North Little Rock, AR 72114
501.372.8881
Jane Johnson

Duro-Last Roofing, Inc.
10320 Hwy. 107
Sherwood, AR 72120
601.214.0527
Darrin Boatman

Enloe Enterprise LLC
4928 Holly
Kansas City, MO 64112
800.373.6563
Vickie Enloe

Featured Systems
5 Clare Circle
Bella Vista, AR 72714
479.855.6422
Ed Chitty

Flintco
184 E. Fantinel Blvd.
Springdale, AR 72762
479.750.4565
Darryl Harris

Flynco, Inc.
7711 Distribution Drive
Little Rock, AR 72209
501.565.1228
Mike Honea

Gerdau Ameriseal
P.O. Box 9330
North Little Rock, AR 72119
501.372.3100
Buddy Metcalf

J.D. Day & Company
6701 W. 64th, Ste. 221
Overland Park, KS 62202
913.722.3213
Jim Day

Kwal Paint
2917 Denise Drive
Benton, AR 72015
501.551.2775
Terry Turner

Lees Carpets
2809 North Taylor
Little Rock, AR 72207
501.831.2345
Stephanie Monroe

Lunday & Associates
717 E. Center Street
Sheridan, AR 72150
870.942.1463
Wade Lunday

Malmstrom-White Co.
11617 Kanis Road
Little Rock, AR 72211
501.224.2775
Jim Saldivar

McGraw-Hill Construction - Dodge Division
1701 Center View Drive, Ste. 119
Little Rock, AR 72211
501.225.8603
Connie Schroepfer

Meeks Lumber & Design Center
4446 W. Sunset Ave.
Springdale, AR 72764
479.751.0585
Dana Wikholm

Missco Contract Sales
2510 Lakeland Terrace, Ste. 100
Jackson, MS 39216
601.987.8600
Mack Skeen

Musco Sports Lighting
46 Zircon Drive
Maumelle, AR 72113
501.960.6121
Steve Ibbotson

Nettleton Concrete, Inc.
P.O. Box 2157
Jonesboro, AR 72402
870.932.4400
Brian Woods

Otis Elevator Company
1527 Bowman Rd., Ste. A
Little Rock, AR 72211
501.312.7600
Richard Carlton

(See Blue on Page 12)

Blue Ribbon Partners

(Continued From Page 11)

Performance Surfaces
200 Richwoods Drive
Bryant, AR 72022
501.681.9438
Bryan Sanders

Prestressed Casting Co., Inc.
P.O. Box 3499 GS
Springfield, MO 65808
417.869.7350
Buck Van Hooser

Razorcrete Concrete Design
P.O. Box 788
Russellville, AR 72811
866.428.1121
Tim Howe

Rulon Company
2000 Ring Way
St. Augustine, FL 32092
800.227.8566
Mike Kolman

SBI Metal Buildings
114 Trooper Drive
Hot Springs, AR 71913
501.262.0600
David Bunn

School & Office Products
P.O. Box 26015
Little Rock, AR 72221-6015
501.663.5500
Terry Greene

Sherwin-Williams Company
15484 College Blvd.
Lenexa, KS 66219
913.381.8633
Brook Nienstedt

Siplast
1000 E. Rochelle Blvd
Irving, TX 75062
469.995.2200
David Bell

Soprema
630 Kenrose Street
Collierville, TN 38017
901.861.3367
P.J. Johnson

Spacesaver—Southwest Solutions
650 South Shackleford, Ste 400
Little Rock, AR 72205
501.859.0675
Justin Story

Tandus
5906 Wall Street
Benton, AR 72019
501.607.2044
Christie Hood

Terracon Consultants
25809 I-30
Bryant, AR 72022
501.847.9292
Shaun Baker

U.S. Stone Industries
3515 West 75th St
Prairie Village, KS 66208
913.529.4154
Bob Rauscher

Viridian
100 Gamble Road
Little Rock, AR 72211
501.227.0648
Matt Bell

Weather Shield Mfg., Inc
P.O. Box 0309
Medford, WI 54451
800.222.2995
Ricky Wilkins

(For information on the
Allied Membership Program,
please visit the AIA Arkansas Web site
at aiaar.org.)

AIA Arkansas

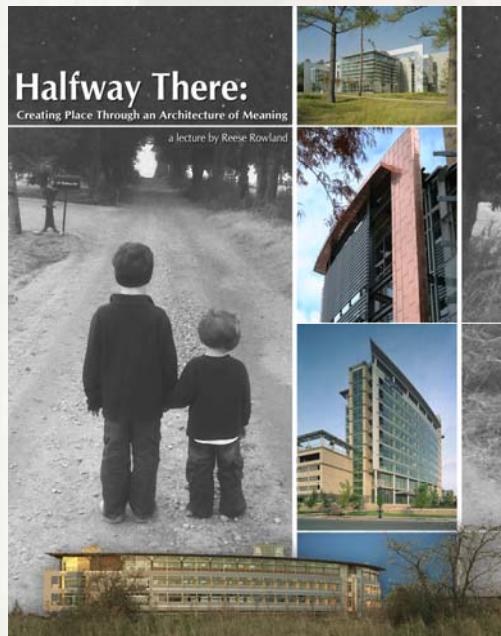
Brent Stevenson
Executive Director

Joie Ketcham
Member Services Director

Jackie Strickland
Member Services Coordinator

Bill Paddock
Communications Director

1020 W. Fourth St., Ste. 400
Little Rock, AR 72201
501.661.1111
www.aiaar.org / info@aiaar.org



Lecture & Tour

Reese Rowland will provide a lecture and tour of the Arkansas Studies Institute on May 5. Watch your e-mail for details, including time and reception information.

Legislative Update

(Continued From Page 3)

Sec. 5 Amends ACA 17-15-104(b), making technical name changes. Sec. 6 Amends ACA 17-15-105(b), making technical change. Sec. 7 Amends ACA 17-15-201 through -205, expanding the board of the State Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, and Interior Designers from seven to nine members, removing the non-voting position occupied by the Dean of the University of Arkansas School of Architecture; removing the membership recommendation privilege of the American Institute of Architects Arkansas Chapter; adding one consumer representative, one licensed landscape architect and one registered interior designer. Sec. 8 Amends ACA 17-15-205, making technical changes. Sec. 9 Repeals ACA 17-15-306, which provides for associate architect temporary licenses. Sec. 10 Amends ACA 17-15-308 through -312, increasing application fees for application, certificates of registration by exemption or transfer, annual renewal of the certificate, and setting the maximum fee for a duplicate license at \$100. Sec. 11 Amends ACA 17-35-101 through -105, making technical and code reference changes. Sec. 12 Repeals 17-35-106, regarding the funding for the Board of Registered Interior Designers. Sec. 13 Repeals 17-35-201 and -202, which creates and grants authority to the Board of Registered Interior Designers. Sec. 14 Amends ACA 17-35-301 through -304, requiring application include evidence verifying passage of National Interior Designers Board exam. Sec. 15 Creates ACA 17-35-305, grounds for revocation of a registered interior designer. Sec. 16 Amends ACA 17-36-10 through -105, removing the attorney general as legal advisor to the Board of Landscape Architects and the Board's authority to employ other legal counsel. Sec. 17 Repeals ACA 17-36-201 through -207, which creates and grants authority to the Board of Landscape

Architects. Sec. 18 Amends ACA 17-36-301 through -308, setting minimum professional Landscape Architecture experience for qualification at two years. Sec. 19 Amends ACA 17-36-310, making technical name changes. (Education) Remains on the Calendar of the Senate Committee on State Agencies. This bill addresses two principle issues.

The first is proposed as an effort to obtain greater efficiency in state government, by combining the boards of three separate and distinct agencies. There is concern that the efficiencies would be insignificant and that the merger of the boards would dilute the influence of each individual group in maintaining their separate roles and professional standards within the building trades.

The second issue is that of the matter of making recommendations to the governor for potential board members. Historically, the Board of Architects had had the statutory authority to submit a list of potential and preferred board members to the governor for his consideration in filling vacancies on their Board. Legislation which created the Board of Landscape Architects and the Board for Interior Designers did not contain similar language. The bill for merger, as drawn by the Bureau of Legislative Research, removed this authority from the provisions governing the Architectural Board for the sake of uniformity among the three merging agencies. It appears that there is strong sentiment among some members of all three agencies that the right to make recommendations to the governor should be basis for uniformity and that the language that was in the original architects' bill should have been applied to all three groups. Negotiations are continuing with the sponsor in an attempt to reach an accord before sine die.

SB 921 – Sen. Shane Broadway of Bryant - State Agencies (Building Authority; Sustainable

Building Design Program) - Ecology/ Pollution - Energy/Alternative Fuels. Sec. 1 Creates ACA 22-3-1901 through 1904, establishing the Sustainable Building Design Program to provide loans to state agencies for the renovation of state-owned property for \$250,000 or more, and establishing loan repayment and approval guidelines. (State Agencies) Reported from the Senate State Agencies Committee on March 26, with a Do Pass recommendation. This bill is modeled after similar legislation that has been a part of the effort to revitalize many public school facilities during the past three session of the General Assembly. Funding is proposed as a loan-repayment program for State Agencies as opposed to the grant program which has been in place for the public schools. The bill also holds potential as a vehicle for utilizing federal funds that could come to the state via a Stimulus Program or other economic impetus by the federal government.

SB 926 – By Sen. Paul Bookout of Jonesboro - Higher Education (Public Improvement Projects; Negotiation Authority) Contractors. Sec. 1 Amends ACA 22-9-203(f), requiring institutions of higher education to follow the same policies and procedures applied to counties, municipalities, school districts, or other taxing units in the awarding of contracts for public improvements. (Co-sponsors: Sen. Capps, Horn, D. Johnson, and R. Thompson; and Rep. Cash, Ingram, Kidd, and B. Wilkins). (Education) Passed the Senate on March 26 by a vote of 35-0. A number of co-sponsors have been added to this bill by way of amendment.

The bill is intended to prevent the use of emergency provisions that are provided for by statute, from being abused in the bidding and awarding of contracts for construction projects being undertaken by the state's institutions of higher education.

Use Your 'AIA' – A Powerful Asset

By Randy Lavigne, Hon. AIA

Executive Director

AIA Nevada / AIA Las Vegas

How often have you seen an architect's name in the newspaper ... or heard them interviewed on radio ... and noticed that they did not use the "AIA" designation with their name?

That "AIA" (and "Associate AIA") designation is a powerful asset for AIA members, and they should insist that it be used with their names anytime they are interviewed, quoted, acknowledged or involved in any public recognition. That "AIA" designation actually speaks volumes about who you are and what you stand for. It announces to the public that you are

a licensed professional who upholds the highest standards of ethics and professional practice.

When you are called on by the media, whether it's an interview, to be quoted on a particular subject, or any civic involvement, tell the writer, announcer or editor that the AIA designation must be included with your name. Don't be afraid to explain to them that the AIA designation is a professional recognition that helps the public to know and understand your professional qualifications as an architect.

Other professionals – doctors, attorneys, contractors – make this request and are very careful to include their professional designations with their names. So ... use your AIA! It means you are a member of the American Institute of Architects and that you are dedi-

cated to providing quality design, safeguarding the public and improving the built environment. When you use that AIA after your name, you are not only proclaiming your own professional status and qualifications, you are also supporting and elevating the whole profession.

The American Institute of Architects was founded in 1857. For the last century and a half the AIA has provided education, government advocacy, community development and public outreach activities, and has endeavored to create an environment that is responsive to the people it serves. As members of the AIA, more than 80,000 licensed architects and associated professionals express their commitment to quality design and livability in our communities throughout the country.

Classified Ads

Positions Available

Architectural firm in Rogers seeking qualified individuals for the positions of **Job Captain** and **Intern Architect** for the production of commercial/retail projects. Responsibilities will include, but are not limited to: development of construction documents, code research, and coordination with project architects, internal team members and engineering consultants. Applicants should possess the following: understanding of general building construction technologies; general knowledge of International Building Code (IBC); ability to develop design concepts into clear, well-organized construction documents; ability to coordinate work with specifications and other disciplines; strong communication and organizational skills and the ability to work in a fast-paced team environment are required. Intern applicants shall have an architecture degree and currently be pursuing licensure.

Qualified applicants should send resumes to: [ca-reers@pb2ae.com](mailto:careers@pb2ae.com) or 710 W. Roselawn Dr., Rogers, AR 72756. EOE

Kirchner Architecture, in Little Rock, is seeking a self-motivated **Project Architect** with three years or more experience in all phases of architecture, LEED, CADD and Revit Architecture software.

In addition, we have a job opportunity for an **Intern Architect** with CADD and Revit Architecture software experience.

Please email resume and salary objective to:
larry@kirchnerarch.com.

Announcements

Antique Brick & Block announces the acquisition of **Cloud Ceramics & Kansas Brick & Tile** to their expansive line of quality clay face brick. These plants manufacture only ASTM C216, FBX, Type SW premium brick at traditional local market pricing. Call Chuck Barr, CSI, CDT for additional information at 501.375.0060.

UA Graduate Wins AIA Thomas Jefferson Award

The American Institute of Architects' 2009 winner of its Thomas Jefferson Award for Public Architecture in the public-sector architects category is a graduate of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

The award went to Roger Boothe, AIA, the director of urban planning for the city of Cambridge, Mass.

Boothe is a graduate of the University of Arkansas and the Harvard Graduate School of Design. Over the past 30 years, he has been involved in design reviews for more than 100 projects that have helped transform the urban fabric of Cambridge.

"I feel I've had a fortunate position in Cambridge, where people care about the built environment," Boothe said, going on to call his city a "laboratory for urban design, planning and architecture."

The jury cited Boothe's role in the development of Harvard Square, Central Square and the East Cambridge Waterfront, among other areas.