



President's Message

By: Stan Palmer July 12, 2010

The Miami Beach AIA convention was hot! Dante must have lived there during the summer and likely provided the inspiration for his most famous work. The temperatures were in the mid 90's with the record high at 97 degrees, so we were about as hot as it gets. The humidity runs about 65% and feels like a body glove. However the convention center was nice and cool, and the classes offered were excellent. The city is lively and the art deco hotels are impressive. The language most often heard in the streets is Spanish. The downtown street, Lincoln Road, has been turned into a pedestrian mall with many restaurants and shops that continue for several blocks.

One of the first impressions I had at this year's convention was that the attendees were considerably older than the convention goes at the San Diego convention in 2003. About a third of the architects had gray hair and a third more were middle-aged. The majority of young people were working at the product booths in the central display area. It was a manifestation of the economy to me. Young architects are out marketing and trying to maintain their workflow. The attendance seemed to me to be much lower than the San Diego convention, and the booth workers seemed almost desperate for someone to stop and talk to them about their products.

There were twelve sessions about traditional building topics, including seminars on the adaptive use of historic buildings, historic community revitalization and energy retrofitting historic buildings, including the Empire State Building case study. There were many seminars relating to "Sustainable Design" and several related to Building Information Modeling (BIM). Perhaps the most interesting seminar I attended concerned the new New York Times building in downtown Manhattan, designed by Renzo Piano and completed in 2007. The building is a 53-story structure which is sheathed entirely with glass and ceramic exterior lattice-type grilles that cover 95% of the surface. The goal of the design was to maximize day lighting for the employees without creating glare, and also to save energy. A full size mock-up was constructed on Long Island that was a quarter of one floor. All material

selections were tried on the mock-up before actually being incorporated into the design. This is known as "evidenced based design". The cost of the mock-up was over a couple of million dollars, but in the final tally its use saved far more than it cost to construct because bidders were allowed to place their products on the mock-up for evaluation. As a result, questions of how complex the installation would be were answered and contingency in each bid was greatly reduced. The effectiveness of the exterior grilles was evaluated on the mock-up, and it was determined that operable internal shading would be required to prevent glare. This was a disappointment to Renzo, but the shades were a necessity. The resultant building is very pleasant to inhabit and all occupants are pleased with their workspaces. Productivity has increased and sick days have been reduced. Energy consumption has been dramatically reduced over the older building previously occupied. Approximate total cost was \$700 million.

The theme of the Convention was "Design for the new Decade". Everyone wants to know what's coming next and the speakers, seminars and tours focused on this subject. Daniel Pink was the major keynote speaker. Daniel is an author of "Drive: The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us" and other best selling business books on how people are motivated. He states that today's workplace has shifted from an "Information Age" that valued knowledge workers to a "Conceptual Age" that values creativity and right-brain-directed (R-directed) aptitudes. He says that there are better methods of motivating people than the bonuses and raises used in today's corporations. These types of rewards work well for very simple and regimented tasks such as in repetitive factory like work but not for complicated tasks. In fact, in several laboratory tests for creativity using money as enticement, it actually reduced creative thinking. The larger the dollar amount, the greater the impediment. This is not to say that money is not important. If a person feels they are underpaid, he will never reach his full productivity or creative peak. The three Pink keys to motivation are Autonomy, Mastery and Purpose. Autonomy means you are in control of what you are producing and how it is done.

Cont'd on page 5

North to Alaska

By Kevin DeKold, AIA, Eastern Section Member

Last year I visited Alaska for the first time to attend our Northwest Regional Conference as the East Idaho Section President. I have to admit that after going to a national and grassroots convention, my expectations for regional conventions were mistakenly not as high. I was excited to go to Alaska which certainly perked my outdoor interests, but I really underestimated what a regional conference can offer. I was pleasantly surprised. Along with the beauty of Alaska and stuffing myself with the Moose and Caribou sausage breakfasts each day, it was all uphill in Anchorage.

I flew in on a Wednesday afternoon mid-September before the main events started to get my bearings and walk off the flight from Idaho Falls. The first event was a cash bar reception that evening at the penthouse of the Captain Hook Hotel, the host hotel. The glass panorama provided a great introduction to the scenery and had me snapping pictures of the sound in one direction and of the coastal mountains in the other. Alas, I had arrived! During this first event AIA Alaska awarded "Alaskan AIA" members for their work they had done in "Alaska." hint, hint.... The crowd was very friendly and receptive which I guess should be expected in a state even sparser than Idaho where we all should know that it really pays to make lots of friends. The food was great, new friendships were started, and I enjoyed my first of many walks back that night to the hotel through a foggy mist that I encountered most evenings in Anchorage.

The next day we dove into classes after an excellent breakfast of, you guessed it, Moose and Caribou sausage. The classes were only eclipsed by the food (and the Saturday hike up Blueberry Hill to some place that climbs right into the clouds)... by the way, these conventions can actually be a lot of fun. Most of the classes had a cold weather theme, and what could be more at home or beneficial to us in Idaho? What I quickly learned is just like Porsche technology trickling down to a VW, an understanding of Alaskan design can certainly be useful to us in Idaho. Now I direct you to

<http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/en/index.htm> where you will find the presentations of the "cold weather" professionals, just click on any of the links under Arctic Engineering Design Forum 17-Sep-2009presentations..... BTW, this is a good place to apologize that it is April of the following year and I am just wrapping up this article and despite Connie's prodding, I have managed to slide by until now. I will look on the bright side and hope that this finds you contemplating a regional conference and will convince you to go. Also on the web page are other studies, and cold weather information that we should all be aware of. Later that same day we visited a Native Interpretive Village which was very interesting where we learned that in some parts of Alaska door sizes are not determined by the size of people, but more wisely by the size of Bears that you want to keep out, survival of the fittest I suppose led to this very sensible way of doing things. Being keenly aware of some

people's tendency to be critical of their culture that the Alaskans still practice as they have done for thousands of years, I particularly liked the explanation of why the Alaskans have always hunted, "because they always have, and because those seal are quite tasty." Made me further appreciate a simpler life, but we were never treated to seal being on our menu....

The next couple of days were pleasantly busy, and I really took advantage of the classes, including one FAR OUT class, bless the presenter's soul, that really pushed the limits of sustainability, and in all kindness, served as an exaggerated reminder to be good stewards, but let's be sensible, right..... Another fun event worth mentioning was a double decker glass topped 2hr train ride each way to a glacier where we had a great time socializing, saw Moose, and witnessed an honor award ceremony, the Alaska AIA folks really did a great job of mixing business with pleasure.

Did I mention building tours??? They were great. I went on two structured and a couple more on my own. David Chipperfield's addition to the Anchorage Art Museum was just finished and we should all donate generously to the "detailers/superintendents gone mad" fund. Just pull this project up on Google, and imagine this, EVERY line in the building is reported to never terminate, that is if you consider them continuing around corners. The fin in the sun screen is within 1/16" of the etched line in the glass, which is within 1/16" of the seam in the wall panel, which is within 1/16" of the center of the ceiling grid, which is within 1/16" of the seam between the cabinet doors on the other side of the room, which is within 1/16" of the center of the ceiling grid of the bathroom on the other side of the wall, which is within 1/16" of the center of the wall tile joint in the bathroom, which is within 1/16" of the center of the lav mirror, which is within 1/16" of the center of the faucet/lav, which is within 1/16" of the waste line coming out of the wall, which is within 1/16" of the wall tile joint to the floor, which is within 1/16" of the floor tile joint, which is within 1/16" of the....., okay, okay, you get the point. Again, donate generously to the above referenced fund, and now you also know why this may be only the third building by Copperfield in the United States, we don't have enough "gone mad" fund money like they do on the other side of the pond, at least not yet (couldn't resist that one). In all seriousness the built quality of this building was EXTREMELY high, I just feel sorry for the detailers and superintendents, and those poor &*\$% that had to rip out the 22 concrete columns that....., you guessed it were of poor quality and not within 1/16"!

Last, but not least, if I failed to make it clear, everyone I met were quite enjoyable. We all shared similar interests in the architecture of our region, we all knew many of the same contacts and took advantage to share new ones, making it a very beneficial networking exercise. I never felt this way at National and Grass Roots, and the difference was significant.

If you have a chance to go to a regional, I say go for it!

GRASSROOTS AND THE BLIZZARD OF 2010

By: Ken Gallegos, AIA, Chapter Vice-President

As President-Elect for AIA Idaho 2010 I enjoyed the opportunity, like those before me, to travel back to our nation's capitol and attend the 2010 AIA Grassroots conference. Grassroots is a conference put on by AIA National to bring together all their membership leaders in one place to learn about, not only the functions of the AIA but the process of legislation itself. There could not be a more appropriate place to learn about this. Part of the conference is to actually meet with your state and congressional representatives in their offices of the House and Senate buildings. And I mean THE House and Senate buildings, the real deal, the buildings that are literally a Tom Brady touch-down pass from the steps of our nation's Capitol. I was amazed at how accessible these buildings were to the public. After all, they are "your" buildings and "your" representatives. Once past the security (however, I don't think you are really ever "past" the security anywhere in DC) you could roam the halls. You could go into any state representative office, see into senate meetings etc. You also wonder who that highly decorated soldier was that passed you in the hall or who that distinguished looking suited gentleman was and where he was going with those armed guards.

Capitol Hill Visit

AIA Idaho's Executive Director and endearingly dubbed "mother hen" Connie Searles had scheduled meetings with Senator Jim Risch, Senator Mike Crapo, Mike Simpson, and Congressman Walt Minnick. We were fortunate to talk with all these except one. AIA National had created the agenda of our discussion with excerpts from the AIA's Rebuild and Renew plan. See this link for the one page description of issues discussed:

<http://www.aia.org/aiaucmp/groups/aia/documents/pdf/aiab082077.pdf> All the representatives were happy that we came to talk with them and were happy to make the time to hear our issues. They all were supportive of the need to revive the economy and create jobs and oddly enough their ideas very closely matched the AIA's proposals on how to get that accomplished.

The funny thing about Capitol Hill I saw is that it is all run by 18-25 year old interns. They answer the phones, schedule the meetings, organize the office, meet with visitors, brief the representatives, organize the bills, etc, etc. It was funny to be sitting there in the offices waiting to talk with a federal con-



gressman and hearing them talk about the latest YouTube video or Facebook posting, or what happened on last night's episode of The Bachelor....OMG...LOL.

Grassroots Conference

The conference portion itself was enlightening to say the least. It was smaller than I expected. Roughly 600 or so attendees from all over the continental United States, Puerto Rico, Guam, Hawaii, Japan, Alaska. All interested in the same topic: What is the AIA and what is it doing for me! Conference topics varied from Leadership to Contract Documents to Strategic Planning to The Power of Design to Advocacy and involvement in your community plus more. Some of which are available online at:http://live.blueskybroadcast.com/bsb/client/CL_DEFAULT.asp?Client=575836&title=On-Demand Home

Most of the people that I met really wanted to know what your chapter was doing and can they share the same info. Idaho is very similar to lots of chapters around the country in terms of what they are trying to accomplish. Many chapters are trying to implement ideas but don't know how to do it. This is what AIA National is all about. **Getting the membership the information and resources they need to be successful!** They want us to call them. They want us to utilize their resources to be more successful. AIA is in the process of rewriting their Long Range Plan. And that plan is all about the membership and connecting members to each other and ideas together for all to share. AIA Idaho is looking forward to being a part of this process.

Tour of AIA Headquarters

AIA headquarters is located at 1735 New York Avenue NW Washington, DC a couple walking blocks from the Nation's



Capitol. It shares a corner with The Octagon House designed by William Thornton, the architect of the U.S. Capitol, and built between 1798 and 1800. This building became the home of the American Institute of Architects on January 1, 1899 and still

sits on the site today. It is ironic how the office of the AIA still sits at this locale over 100 years later. Read the full Wikipedia article on The Octagon House here:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Octagon_House_\(Washington,_D.C.\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Octagon_House_(Washington,_D.C.))

The AIA headquarters was recently renovated and updated and is a great example of what Architects do. Once inside the offices (at a reception one night of the conference) we were greeted by some staff members and welcomed to tour the whole place at our leisure. It was just like any other office and just as inviting. I do suspect that they put away and cleaned up a lot of stuff to make the place presentable. We all know how Architect offices can get lost in the clutter. I walked away from this open house with a better understanding of what they do there and

Grassroots, Cont'd



how all these resources are available to the membership (as well as a belly full of fine Hors D'oeuvres and malted barley.) I will not hesitate to call upon someone at AIA National head-

quarters when I have a question on something or need guidance on an event AIA Idaho wants to have.

Blizzard of 2010

The last two days of the conference, word started coming in on the news about a large storm heading toward the DC area. Record snowfalls in excess of 24 inches expected! Airline cancellations started rolling in. Airports started shutting down. Busses stopped running and people flocked to the stores to stock up. All before even a handful of flakes hit the ground. Grocery stores were staying open 24 hours and there were still lines at the registers at 2:00 am. The most popular items were: water, milk, bread and toilet paper. Hehe. Growing up in Idaho this kind of snow was not uncommon so I was not concerned. I

knew what I needed: dry shelter, food, water, warmth. If you ever want to see an entire state shut down when 2" of snow falls then head to Washington, DC. The snow started coming in Friday night and was heavy by 7 pm. The rail lines shut down above ground when the depth reaches 8" so I checked out of the hotel early. Luckily my best friend and his family live just a short drive off one of the Metro Rail lines. I made it to his stop with 30 minutes to spare before all rail service was stopped indefinitely. He however had quite a time getting out of his street and driving to the station to get me. On the way back to his house we passed at least 5 vehicles off the road in as many miles and were relieved that no one smashed into us. That is what best friends are for. The next morning it became apparent why the panic. Nearly 3 feet of snow, trees down on power lines, power outages all over. Even the emergency snow roads were closed! Originally slated to fly out on Saturday, it then became Monday and then Wednesday before an available flight could get me out of there. There is always a bright side too. The sun came out Sunday and we enjoyed all the wintertime glories: NO SCHOOL!, Shoveling 36" of snow out of the driveway, kids building snow forts in 6 foot drifts and sledding down the street, wood burning stoves, hot cocoa and soup to warm us all up.

Overall an entire experience I would repeat in a heartbeat and one I hope you too will take the opportunity to serve your AIA

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2010 Legislative Sine Die Report

Contributed by L. E. Benton Assoc.

The 2010 legislative session finished the people's business around 9:30 pm on Monday March 29th, ending one of the shortest legislative sessions in recent history. The session was filled mostly with decisions on how to balance the state budget for the last fiscal year as well as the upcoming fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010. For the first time public education was cut with administrators seeing a 6.5% decrease and teachers seeing a 4% decrease, although there are some school districts that have surplus funds and continue to give raises to teachers. Higher education also saw a decrease but the legislature did set up a reserve account to help buffer them from further cuts.

Although the holes of the budget have been filled it may well be only the finger in the dike as state revenues continue to come in below forecasts. Already there is a \$22million general fund gap in funding within the Health and Welfare budget for next year, and we are already hearing there will likely be another hold back initiated by the Governor this summer if revenues into the state don't increase.

With the "rainy day" accounts nearly empty and agency's believing they are at the bare bones levels several in the legislature are looking at a myriad of ways to increase revenue into the state. Some options include giving tax breaks to small businesses, reducing the corporate income tax level, expanding the sales tax to services, and removing the current sales tax exemptions. House Bill 707 was printed at the end of the session and was a proposal for lowering both individual income taxes as well as corporate taxes over an eight year period. This bill had a "discussion" in the Revenue and Taxation Committee and we expect it to be the starting point for discussions in the interim and next year.

Architecture Related Legislation

House Bill 460 The Idaho Board of Architectural Examiners is clarifying the licensure exemptions to allow for architectural services associated with a residence not exceeding 3 stories in height. The statute language and change is as follows:

(c) The rendering of any architectural service required

President's Message, cont'd

Mastery is getting better and better at something that matters. Purpose is the yearning to do something that we do in the service of something larger than ourselves. Creative artistic work is exactly what architects do, and Pink says that the future belongs to us. Most of the simple regimented jobs are being outsourced to other countries and what remains are nebulously defined and non-regular employment opportunities. Needless to say, he was very well received.

I attended as many BIM related sessions as I could because of its emerging importance in architectural practice. In the US now, approximately one-third of all architectural practices are using BIM regularly in their work. One main advantage of using BIM is that it forces more design decisions to be made earlier in the process, therefore producing fewer changes as the design is developed. The cost is high to get into BIM, but

in the erection, enlargement, alteration, or repair of any building, where such building is to be, or is used as a single or multiple family residence not exceeding three (3) units or two three (23) stories in height, or as a farm building; or for the purpose of outbuildings or auxiliary buildings in connection with such residential or farm premises. **The Governor has signed this legislation and it will go into effect on July 1, 2010.**

House Bill 448 The purpose of this legislation was to provide an economic development incentive for new manufacturing facilities construction and development. The legislation modifies H550 (2008) by removing the requirement for development to occur in rural development areas. The legislation will grant the board of county commissioners authority to offer property tax exemptions for a maximum of five (5) years to a taxpayer who spends a minimum of \$3,000,000 for new manufacturing facilities. The taxpayer must demonstrate significant economic benefits that will accrue to the county from such property development. **This bill did not have a hearing.**

Senate Bill 1324 Recently, in a contested award of a construction contract, it became evident that Idaho code was not consistent in two sections concerning subcontractors. Idaho code section 67-2310 is being changed to include language found in section 541902 (4) that exempts contractor licensure requirements at the time of bid for projects financed with federal aid. This legislation corrects these issues. **This bill has been signed by the Governor and will go into effect July 1, 2010.**

Senate Bill 1279 The Idaho Small Business Opportunity and Jobs Act gives Idaho-based businesses increased opportunities to win state and local government contracts. The act provides a preference for Idaho-based businesses and Idaho materials in state and local government contracts of less than \$5 million by allowing governmental entities to select Idaho-based businesses and materials over out-of-state competitors as long as the Idaho-based businesses bid is no more than 5% higher than the out-of-state bid. **This bill did not have a hearing.**

Thank you for allowing us to represent your association this legislative session.

Kris and Larry

it appears that is the way of the future. Buildings can be shown to clients in 3-D models and they are much better understood. Many, many people cannot understand the 2-D drawings used in traditional architectural practice.

Sustainability has become a given for commercial and institutional work. LEED has emerged as the standard. "LEED AP" on Architects business cards has become common. The economical benefit of designing green buildings has jumped in importance as green buildings are easier to sell and are worth more in the market place. It is becoming a requirement that architects design in the "green" idiom.

I would encourage any architect to attend at least one AIA national convention because of the great learning atmosphere and pride in the profession that comes from it. Architects are honestly interested in yearning to do something in the service of something larger than ourselves.

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Calendar

Central Section Meetings

The second Tuesday of every month, except June, July & August

Design Awards

Entry Application Deadline—August 6

Submission Deadline—September 30

Future National Convention Dates

May 12-14, 2011, New Orleans

May 17-19, 2012, Washington, DC

NW&P Region Conference

October 13-16, 2010, Eugene, OR

October 10-14, 2011, Toyko, Japan

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208.388.8536

!! Free to AIA Idaho Members!!

AIA Idaho wants to show off your work! Our webpage has 8 images that will rotate about every 2 weeks that feature member projects.

If you want your images shown on www.aiaidaho.com contact kengallegos@lcarch.com

Each firm can submit about 5 images. Images must be vertical format 465x350 pixels and no more than 72 dpi and in .jpg format. Your firm's name is shown at the bottom of the image. Images are put into a pool and are selected randomly for the website with special attention taken to provide equal time to each firm submitting images.

And, if you want more exclusive exposure, check out the "Architect of the Month" sponsorship page as well!



AIA Idaho Chapter

270 N 27th St, Ste B

Boise ID 83702

Architect of the Month

In October 2009 AIA Idaho launched a new page on your AIA Idaho Website www.aiaidaho.com called "Architect of the Month." This page is available to all current AIA Idaho members to show off their firms talents.

This page is available for sponsorship @ \$250 per month. Member firms can show off 5 of their best images as well as have a couple paragraphs describing their firms work, focus, design philosophy, etc. The page also provides a direct link to the firms own website and email for those prospective clients that want to learn more.

Since started, the "Architect of the Month" page has had over 800 hits and averaged about 200 per month. For firms who don't have their own website, this is a great opportunity to get yourself seen on the world wide web at a much less cost than setting up your own website. Check out http://www.aiaidaho.com/Architect_of_the_Month.php to view the current featured firm.

For more information and details on how your firm can become the next AIA Idaho "Architect of the Month", contact aiaidaho@qwestoffice.net