AUSTIN DESIGN
THE HERMATIGE CLUB LODGE, HAYSTACK MOUNTAIN, VERMONT
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THE WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

The WMAIA Newsletter is published four times a year.

It is circulated to all members, advertisers and subscribers.

Please direct all newsletter correspondence to
Rachael Chase Associate AIA, at: editor@wmaia.org

Articles, photos, notices of events and other information are welcome.

Opinions expressed in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the WMAIA.

The Editor reserves the right to reject or revise material as space and subjective opinion permit.

COVER PHOTO: SOUTH COUNTY POST & BEAM
In the coming year, I plan to venture forth, walk the lanes of western Massachusetts, and visit you, the WMAIA members to discuss our chapters’ successes and challenges. I want to hear first hand what you think and how we can strengthen our organization. Increasing sponsorship is my second goal. The WMAIA is in a unique position to bring together design professionals, vendors, manufacturers, and other industry players and I hope to facilitate an increased exchange of ideas and information. I’d like to thank Sigrid Miller Pollin FAIA and Erika Zekos Associate AIA who are stepping down from the Executive Committee this year. Their presence and many contributions will be missed. At the same time I’d like to welcome Carey Clouse AIA and Doug Marshall AIA as new Board members. I’m very thankful to be supported by such an engaged, insightful, dedicated Board and Executive Director. The WMAIA, “promotes excellence in architecture through professional development, community outreach, and the celebration of architecture in our region”. There are many programs, building tours, and films already planned for 2014. I look forward to seeing all of you at these events and welcome the opportunity to engage with you on any and all topics. Please contact me at cfarley@kuhnriddle.com.

Chris Farley, WMAIA Chapter President

THOMAS RC HARTMAN AIA 2014 PRESIDENT AIA MASSACHUSETTS

AIA Massachusetts is the state component for the BSA, Central MA AIA, and Western MA Chapters. The focus of AIA Mass is specifically on statewide policies and regulatory context that affects our profession. Each of the three chapters has three seats on a nine member Board, and the Presidency rotates on an annual basis. This year, I am pleased to serve as your President.

Working with Executive Director John Nunnari Associate AIA, our on-going business from previous years includes working with the MA Gaming Commission to develop the Request for Proposals and evaluate responses, tracking some 140 bills, and supporting the Boston Survivors Accessibility Alliance and more.

During 2014 we have an ambitious goal. One that in principle is very simple, but in execution could be quite difficult — a blended building code. We have begun discussions with allied industry organizations, various regulatory officials, and our design professional colleagues. In these conversations we’re finding broad support of the notion that “front end amendments” should be a thing of the past.

(Continued Page 3)

MARTHA MONTGOMERY AIA 2014 PRESIDENT AIA NEW ENGLAND

After several years as a representative to the AIA New England Board of Directors, it is my privilege to be leading this group in 2014. AIA New England is the regional body connecting local chapters to AIA National. The board is comprised of representatives from each of eight chapters – Western Mass., Central Mass., Boston (BSA), Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. We then elect board officers and two Regional Directors, a Regional Associate Director (RAD), as well as a Young Architects Regional Director (YARD). College of Fellows Representatives are non-voting members who also sit on the board.

At quarterly meetings chapter reps share concerns and successes. We hear reports from each regional representative who, in turn, takes our concerns to the national level. During periods of great change in architecture, or in the national economy, our unified voice has been a powerful tool. AIA New England is our most direct, transparent link to the association to which we pay dues. I invite all Western Mass AIA members to use this board fully – share ideas, concerns, questions; be adamant that your needs be heard; offer suggestions. This board can be a better liaison.

(Continued Page 3)
KATHLEEN LUGOSCH FAIA RECEIVES WOMEN IN DESIGN AWARD

Kathleen Lugosch FAIA, Graduate Program Director of the UMass Architecture+Design Program and a key figure in the creation of the University’s Master of Architecture Program, received the Women in Design Award from the Boston Society of Architects on November 20 as part of the ArchitectureBoston Expo. The Women in Design Award is “presented in recognition of a person who has designed her own life in design, whose work exemplifies the best of process and practice, and who uses a position of achievement to give back to the world of design and to the community at large.” Congratulations, Kathleen!

THOMAS RC HARTMAN AIA, (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

We are proposing that the Commonwealth promulgate a building code where the amendments to the base IBC code are included directly in the main text. This is done in several other states including New York. The amendments are clearly marked as specific to that state. When the IBC, IEBC and IRC are next adopted with the 2015 code cycle we hope to have simplified using the code, as well as improving public safety in the process. It’s simply too easy to make a mistake now with three, four, maybe five reference documents open at a time.

So as you can see, the goal is simple, but the process will be complex. We will certainly be calling on you for your support in the near future.

MARTHA MONTGOMERY AIA, (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

We hope to improve the dissemination of national issues to local chapters. Please do your part and insist on thoughtful representation so we build the most valuable, responsive AIA possible. To contact me regarding regional concerns, please see the new, improved AIANE website http://aianewengland.org/. The Western Massachusetts Representative to AIANE in 2014 will be Past President of WMAIA, Jeremy Toal. He can be contacted at Jeremy.Toal@gmail.com.
WMAIA's Annual Meeting was held December 4th at the Monkey Bar in Amherst. More than 60 people attended this joint meeting with the USCBG-MA West Branch Chapter. The event was sponsored by Wright Builders. The USBGC-MA West Branch presented their Green Giant Awards. WMAIA's welcomed new president Chris Farley AIA and thanked outgoing president Jeremy Toal AIA. WMAIA presented $1,500 in student scholarships to two talented UMASS architecture graduate students. These scholarships are jointly funded by WMAIA and AIA National. We also presented four awards for service to the chapter.

WMAIA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

ROBERT RAMLOW-SACHS AIAS
Autonomy Housing
GRADUATE STUDIO FOUR SPRING 2013
INSTRUCTOR JOSEPH KRUPCZYNSKI

NAYEF MUDAWARE AIAS
Institute of Cultural History
GRADUATE STUDIO ONE FALL 2012
INSTRUCTOR JOSEPH KRUPCZYNSKI

AWARDS FOR SERVICE TO THE CHAPTER

SAMANTHA GREENBERG AIAS
For launching our Social Media presence:
www.facebook.com/westernmassachusettsAIA

ANDREW GROGAN ASSOCIATE AIA + THOM LONG
For the WMAIA Five College Architecture Film Series
33 films + counting!

DORRIE BROOKS ASSOCIATE AIA
For launching our Emerging Professionals Program
On November 8th Northampton Mayor David J. Narkewicz announced of the winners of the Small Lot|Big Ideas Competition. More than 300 people jammed the A.P.E. Gallery for the reception and announcement that coincided with Arts Night Out. The occasion was the culmination of the City’s Small Lot|Big Ideas Competition and Exhibition (co-sponsored by WMAIA and the Daily Hampshire Gazette).

WMAIA collaborated with the City of Northampton Department of Planning & Sustainability on both the competition and the exhibition of 23 design schemes for new, narrow lot residential home designs. The exhibit was designed by WMAIA’s Emerging Professionals Group. The City hopes the exhibit will increase attention on recently liberalized “small lot” zoning ordinances in the City, and will encourage more innovative design thinking. The competition was judged by Michael LeBlanc, AIA, principal of Utile Inc., Christine Malecki West, AIA, principal of Kite Architects and Robert Orr, FAIA, principal of Robert Orr & Associates.

Here we highlight the winners, but all entries can be seen on the City of Northampton website, at http://www.northamptonma.gov/936/small-lots-BIG-IDEAS. If you haven’t already seen it, please take a few minutes to view the accompanying video at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xSF5Zm4N59o produced by Dorrie Brooks, Associate AIA for the exhibition.

CONGRATULATIONS to all who were recognized! The land will be auctioned off on Wednesday, January 15th, beginning at noon with a minimum bid of $72K. The new owner must choose one of the architects who entered the competition to design their house. Many thanks to Wayne Feiden FAICP, Hon. WMAIA, the City’s Director of Planning and Sustainability for initiating this project.

First Prize: Luminous House, Pari Riahi AIA, Pari Riahi Architects
WINNING ENTRIES

SMALL LOT | BIG IDEAS

Honorable Mention:
Solar in the City, Tempietto Homes + Robert Karn

Second Prize: The Loft, Paul Lukez FAIA

Shout Out: Archway House
Brian Schumacher, Kathleen Lugosch FAIA
+ Patricia O’Flaherty Associate AIA

Shout Out: Narrow House
Rachael Chase Associate AIA,
Loren Chase AIA, NOVA Design Studios

People’s Choice: You|Me|US
Dorrie Brooks Associate AIA, Julie Meyer +
Kristian Whitsett AIA

Shout Out: Full House
Janos Keseru AIA Architect
ARCHITECT CHOSEN FOR UMASS INTEGRATED DESIGN BUILDING

The Integrated Design Building project at UMass Amherst continues to advance. Leers Weinzapfel Associates (LWA), of Boston, will lead the design for the building, which will house the Architecture + Design, Landscape Architecture, Regional Planning, and Building Construction Technology programs. LWA began work in November with an initial programming and site feasibility study. Occupancy is scheduled for late summer 2016.

“We’re excited about collaborating with LWA on this project. Their deep experience will help us create a ground breaking model for integrated education and research regarding the built environment,” says Stephen Schreiber FAIA, Director, UMass Architecture + Design Program

NCARB AWARDS $25,000 TO UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

The University of Massachusetts Amherst was one of only three schools to receive a $25,000 NCARB Award. The NCARB Award supports initiatives that will have a long-term impact on students, faculty, and curriculum. It is designed to help schools implement new programs that bridge the gap between practice and education in a classroom, seminar, or studio setting. The UMass Amherst proposal, “Voices from the Field: From Design Concept to Reality,” will expose students to the nuances of the construction process-knowledge typically attained after graduation through a series of bi-weekly site tours and firm visits. This seminar exemplifies the way architecture students of the future should integrate construction needs into the design process. Congratulations to UMass Architecture+Design!

UMASS PROFESSOR MAX PAGE WINS ROME PRIZE FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION + CONSERVATION

Max Page, professor of art and architectural history at the University of Massachusetts, was one of three scholars to receive the 2013-2014 Rome Prize for Historic Preservation and Conservation. The American Academy in Rome presents the awards to honor “the highest standard of excellence in the arts and humanities.” Past winners include architects Robert Venturi and Louis Kahn, composers Aaron Copland and Laurie Anderson and writers Ralph Ellison and William Styron. The prize includes a fellowship that provides a stipend, studio or study, room and board in Rome for up to two years—and the opportunity for recipients to expand their own professional, artistic or scholarly pursuits. Page plans to spend the spring semester of 2014 in Italy.

About his work, Page said: “For the historic preservation movement to thrive in the 21st century it must be more energetically engaged in present needs and, at the same time, more seriously engaged with controversial pasts. These are twin pillars of a book I am writing about the future of historic preservation. It is the wish to understand how different nations and cultures wrestle with these two core preservation issues which makes me to want to spend six months at the American Academy in Rome. My project is twofold: to explore the controversial architectural heritage of Mussolini’s regime in contemporary Rome, and visit and research the work of Carlo Scarpa, who marks the start — and a high point — of architectural thinking about how to merge modern design and historic integrity. Preservation of historic buildings and public history work around “sites of conscience” have been seen as two separate endeavors. I argue that these must be part and parcel of the same enterprise.” Congratulations, Max!
The New Year is here. In July, 2014 the 2012 IECC energy code goes into effect. The ‘Stretch Code’ will be revamped to result in 15-20% greater energy savings over the base code and will require new residential buildings to have a HERS index around 55 or 60 (a specific index level has yet to be confirmed). Builders and designers that specialize in energy efficient buildings will not have a problem with the shift to the 2012 IECC. Yet other builders may have some serious wake-up calls. Fortunately, there are some proven strategies that will all but ensure compliance with the 2012 IECC and pending Stretch codes. In the spirit of ‘year in review’ countdowns, here are my 8 strategies to surpass the 2012 IECC residential energy code.

8. Use efficient lighting and appliances. A HERS model can get a real boost from Energy Star rated appliances. All fixtures should be either CFL or LED lighting.

7. Insulate sheathing. This practice will be required just North of us in Zone 5 regions. Adding 1- 2” of continuous rigid board to the exterior of 2x6 walls with cavity insulation reduces whole building leakage rates and improves overall UA values of wall assemblies.

6. Properly size high efficiency mechanical equipment. This may sound like a no-brainer but many installers don’t properly size heating and cooling systems. All combustion equipment should be sealed and vented through a side-wall, not chimney.

5. Work with a HERS rater in the design process. A HERS rater isn’t there to simply inspect and pass or fail. This consultant should be willing to consult to support code compliance and to maximize utility rebates.

4. Insulate basement slab and walls. By insulating basement walls instead of the ceiling, duct work or hydronic distribution lines in the basement do not need to be tested or insulated. An insulated basement is a much more functional space. Insulating the basement walls and adding supply heat to the basement can have a dramatic positive impact on a HERS index.

3. Understand ventilation options. The 2012 code mandates compliance with ASHRAE ventilation standards. There are several ways to achieve this - from expensive balanced systems (ERV, HRV) to simple inexpensive bath fan timer switches. Know your options and design accordingly. Proper ventilation improves indoor air quality and maintains building durability.

2. Avoid forced air ducted systems. Save thousands on a smaller point-source heating system and invest the savings in insulation. Your clients will be happier in the long run. If a large system is needed, chose a hydronic system over hot air and avoid air conditioning or use ductless mini splits in targeted areas.

1. ...... Draw the air-barrier. Literally draw the primary air barrier on building plans and call out areas that may need special attention to detail (rim bands, penetrations through attic, cantilevered floors, etc.)
Exhibition runs January 23 - March 9, 2014
Opening Reception:
Wednesday, January 22, 2014, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Exhibition walkthrough and discussion with MACM Curator François LeTourneux at 6:00 p.m

Renowned Canadian artist Lynne Cohen has been photographing interior spaces: laboratories, offices, health spas, classrooms, shooting ranges often wryly humorous, sometimes bleak, with an element of suspense and of uneasiness. Her large-format photographs are devoid of people but not of human presence. Through the seemingly fictional quality of these spaces, the purposes of which are as often as not ill-defined, Cohen creates a cross between documentary photography and artifice, sense and nonsense, the ordinary and dream-like. Her vision is informed by a deep feeling for the mystery in the ordinary: what is on the surface but out of sight.

The Eye is a Door
by Anne Whiston Spirn
January 31-August 31, 2014

The Eye is a Door showcases the photographic work of world-renowned writer, theoretician, and landscape architect Anne Whiston Spirn. The author of several important texts on landscape, Spirn’s multi-disciplinary practice evolves from her photographic work.

The Eye Is a Door: Photography and the Art of Visual Thinking is about seeing as a way of knowing and photography as a medium of thought and a mode of discovery. To photograph mindfully is to look and think, to open a door between what can be seen directly and what is hidden and can only be imagined.
For the past decade, Jason Middlebrook has been exploring the complex relationship between man and nature in his sculptures, installations, paintings, and large-scale drawings. Middlebrook’s interest in the state of the environment has been articulated in work that addresses the effects of human intervention in a range of landscapes, from the taming of the suburban yard to the building of the Alaskan Pipeline.

Artists Dike Blair, Hugh Scott-Douglas, and collaborative duo Guyton/Walker paint, print, and project abstract images and patterns onto the surface of shipping crates. Incorporating storage and transportation containers into vivid multimedia installations, these artists explore parallels between the physical movement of artworks and the seemingly limitless circulation of visual information across media and networks in the digital age.
FEATURED ARTISAN

DON KELLY
BLUEBERRY WOODWORKS

HAVE YOU WORKED WITH AN ARTISAN WE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT?

NOMINATE SOMEONE FOR ‘FEATURED ARTISAN’ BY EMAIL AT EDITOR@WMAIA.ORG
Blueberry Woodworks has been a one man woodturning business since the late 70’s. The shop is in the ell of Don Kelly’s 1790 Cape in Plainfield, Massachusetts, in the northwestern corner of Hampshire County. It’s a short commute from kitchen to shop – three steps through the mud room. Referred to from time to time as “Don’s Lathe City” the shop seems made from bits of history: from the 222 year old carved initials of the master carpenter who built the place to the log and pin carriage hoist still overhead in the old wheelwrights shop to Don’s thirty plus years of tools and turnings.

Because all Blueberry Woodworks does is custom work there is no catalog or inventory. The designs for the work come from the customers particular need. Matching existing pieces is pretty straight forward. Designs for new work run the gamut from architect’s full scale drawings to antique post cards, magazine photos and images scanned from library books.

The capacities of a turning shop are defined partly by the abilities of the turner and partly by the machinery. Porch posts, columns and newels are hand turned on the 1961 Oliver Model 20-B patternmaker lathe. A wonderful lathe, it can do up to ten feet between centers. The Centauro T-4 hydraulic duplicating lathe makes the tens, twenties and hundreds of balusters, as well as various other multiples. Everyday hand turning of baluster patterns, finials, rosettes and so on gets split between the old Delta variable speed and the Mini-Max. Additionally, there is the face plate lathe; a very stout machine that was made by a foundry in Bath, Maine. It can do large diameter / short length work like big column bases. The lathe list gets rounded out by the Sheldon 13” and Atlas 6” metal lathes.

For more information or to visit the shop, contact Don Kelly, Blueberry Woodworks
413.634.2186
www.blueberrywoodworks.com

All photos by Don Kelly
After graduation, he needed to complete an internship to be licensed as an architect. He was the last in his class to find a placement. But the architect who hired him admired his talent, his self-assurance and his uncompromising determination.

While classmates at other firms worked on restroom details, Ron was put in charge of the design for the Greensboro Civic Center.

As Ron’s career began, changes were taking place nationally and locally in North Carolina state government. A group of doctors, lawyers, and businessmen, all with disabilities, had come to the office of senior state building officials. “We don’t want to be supported by the tax payers”, they said, “we want to pay taxes.”

Legislators got involved, a Governor’s Committee on Accessibility Standards was formed, access provisions were written into the building code. But architects and builders complained that they could not understand what the words meant. Ron was hired to produce an illustrated version of the code. It became a national model.

Ron and his wife Lockhart Fallon-Mace began training architects and building inspectors. They would drive up in a van, put down the ramp, and roll up to the podium. The architects and inspectors learned what they needed to do and why they needed to do it.

In 1976 Ron published Accessibility Modifications: Guidelines for Modifications to Existing Buildings. It was his response to the “rampant myths of excessive costs”. His experience living in a trailer in College meshed with HUD’s interest in mobile homes as affordable housing. Ron designed adaptations that made them accessible and functional.

At the heart of Ron’s work was a recognition that just as accessible design was the key to independence and integration of millions of people with disabilities, it was essential that a bridge be built from code requirements to design excellence.

In 1977 the America National Standards A117.1 was being revised. Kitchens, bathing facilities, elevators, and automatic doors, were being addressed for the first time, as were accessible routes and toilet stalls with enough room for a side transfer.

“Let the shameful walls of exclusion at last come tumbling down!” (President George Herbert Walker Bush - July 26, 1990)

The day the American With Disabilities Act became the law of the land, was a decisive day not only for civil rights in America and but for American architecture and disciplines of design as well.

Hailed as the most expansive civil rights legislation to follow the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the ADA, passed by overwhelming bi-partisan majorities in both houses of Congress, was signed into law on a warm midsummer morning on the South Lawn of the White House, with thousands advocates and supporters looking on -- the largest assembly to witness a bill signing in the history of the nation.

The ADA set the capstone to a body of federal law that linked the design of the built environment to the best and truest values of American democracy. And among the dozens of architects and designers who attended the signing ceremony, none had contributed more to that moment in history than Ron Mace of Raleigh, North Carolina.

Ron was born to be a designer. As a boy, he began with soapbox derby racers and model airplanes. At the age of nine he contracted polio and spent a year in hospitals. After that his designs had direction and urgency; a transfer chair on wheels without which he could not get into the bathroom unassisted, a platform bed with storage to increase the maneuver space needed to ride his wheelchair. As a teenager, when his father deliberately built a lakeside cabin with doors too narrow for a chair, Ron fixed the problem with a chainsaw. It was his first remodeling job.

He long dreamed of becoming an architect, but when he applied to the School of Design at NC State, a dean told him a person with a disability could not make it through the program. Ron proved him wrong. In the era before disability rights, before physical and program access, there were no accessible dormitories an NC State. Design studios were inaccessible, Ron’s mother moved to Raleigh and rented a trailer. Design studios were inaccessible. Ron worked alone in the trailer.
Architects, builders, and manufacturers had legitimate questions and concerns. Ron was part of a national network of accessible design researchers that carried out the technical analysis that demonstrated the new standards could be implemented practically and effectively. Revised ANSI standards were published in 1980.

HUD funded Ron to produce the illustrated monograph “Adaptable Housing.” Then the Fair Housing Amendments were passed in 1988, and Ron was recruited to lead an interdisciplinary team at the newly established Center for Accessible Housing at NC State. That same year, the American Institute of Architects honored Ron, conferring on him the title Fellow of the AIA, the youngest designer ever to be so honored.

Over the decade that followed, the Center for Accessible Housing evolved into the Center for Universal Design. Its mission was both national and global. The new era of disability rights ushered in by enactment of the ADA demanded design innovation.

Ron led the way, he coined the term Universal Design and convened a group of designers and researchers that formulated the influential 7 Principles of Universal Design.

In 1998, no more than a week after 450 designers and advocates from nineteen countries had gathered at Hofstra University for the First International Conference on Universal Design, Ron died suddenly at his home in Raleigh. Master designer, human rights advocate, author, illustrator, teacher - Ron Mace’s extraordinary career, spanned three transformational decades, earning him a place among the most important architects of the twentieth century.

His influence on the design disciplines, access codes, national disability policy, and international thinking about inclusive and universal design will be felt for generations to come.
February 12th
Green Tea - Envelope Retrofit Analysis
Campus Center/UMASS Amherst 4:30 PM
LUs (TBD)

The USGBC MA-West Branch presents: Green Tea - Envelope Retrofit Analysis Using eQUEST, IESVE, Revit Plug-in and Green Building Studio. Three building energy analysis tools (eQUEST, IESVE, Revit Plug-in and Green Building Studio) have been used to quantify the predicted energy saving of a proposed envelope retrofit in a university dormitory building.

February 25
High Performance Masonry Retrofits
Foam Free High Performance Building Enclosures
Decentralized High Efficiency Ventilation
8:30 AM – 12:00 Noon, Sunderland Public Library
3 LUs (2 HSW)

This professional development program will include three presentations. It is presented by 475 High Performance Building Supply.

ARCHITECTURE THROUGH FILM SERIES

The WMAIA/Five College Architecture film series continues this spring with excerpts from the documentary series ARCHITECTURES, which explores an eclectic mix of some of the world’s most renowned buildings. Films followed by discussion. 6:30 PM at Fayerweather 117, Amherst College

February 26: Early Modern to Contemporary
The Vienna Savings Bank by Otto Wagner
The Dessau Bauhaus by Walter Gropius
The Georges Pompidou Centre by Renzo Piano, Gianfranco Franchini & Richard Rogers

March 12: Space - Form - Use
The Johnson Building by Frank Lloyd Wright
The Stone Thermal Baths by Peter Zumthor
Lyon Satolas TGV Station by Santiago Calatrava

March 26: Public Buildings
The Jewish Museum Berlin by Daniel Libeskind
The Auditorium Building in Chicago by Louis Harris Sullivan
The Garnier Opera by Charles Garnier

April 9: Non-Western Design
The Alhambra, Granada
Phaeno Science Center in Wolfsburg by Zaha Hadid
The Yoyogi Olympic Gymnasiums by Kenzo Tange