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STEPHEN GERARD DIETMANN ARCHITECT AIA  
QUINN RESIDENCE  
GREAT BARRINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

WINTER  
2015

# NEWSLETTER OF THE WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER

## LIGHTS, CAMERA, AWARDS!

### THE 2014 WMAIA ANNUAL DINNER + AWARDS PROGRAM

On Thursday, 4 December, over 70 WMAIA members and guests gathered at the Unitarian Universalist Society of Amherst (UUSA) for our Annual Dinner and Awards Program. The evening was generously sponsored by Wright Builders, Inc. and Kuhn Riddle Architects; General Contractor and Architect of the new addition and renovation at UUSA.

The evening began with a fabulous presentation of the renovation process by Mark Ledwell and Roger Cooney of WB Inc. and John Kuhn AIA and Liv Wyatt Associate AIA of KRA in the sanctuary, followed by a Q&A and a self-guided tour of the building. The building was filled with lively discussions and laughter as the tour progressed and everyone settled into the Social Hall for hors d'oeuvres and the evening's program of presentations and dinner.

Chapter President Chris Farley AIA began with the yearly president's report. Chris highlighted the formation of an Emerging Professionals groups (EPs), increased membership numbers, a strong Film Series now in its sixth year, a new effort to build sponsorship and affiliate membership, and a grant-funded series of workshops called "Connecting to Craft" organized by the EP group. Treasurer Thomas RC Hartman AIA reported a good year for the Chapter ending with a small deficit but with a strong, two-year operating reserve.

Executive Director Lorin Starr continued the presentation by acknowledging the contributions of numerous members and volunteers including outgoing Board member Jeremy Toal AIA and Martha Montgomery AIA. Both Jeremy and Martha are past presidents of the Chapter and Martha is the out-going president of AIA New England. Lorin continued by thanking out-going AIA Mass president Thomas RC Hartman AIA, AIAS representative to the Board Nayef Mudawar AIAS, Film Series Coordinator Andy Grogan Associate AIA, EP Coordinator Dorrie Brooks Associate AIA, IPD Coordinators Jason Newman Associate AIA and Lindsay Schnarr Associate AIA, Newsletter Editor Rachael Chase Associate AIA, Website Manager Julie Waggoner Affiliate WMAIA and Social Media Coordinator Rachael Beesen AIAS.

The next order of business was the election of officers for 2015. The slate of officers was presented by John Kuhn AIA and our members unanimously elected Chris Farley AIA as President, Helen Fantini AIA as President-Elect, Thomas RC Hartman as Treasurer, and Ludmilla Pavlova AIA as Secretary for 2015.

Each year WMAIA awards two scholarships to UMass students for design excellence. This year, as in years past, the Chapter is pleased to have received a generous grant from AIA National which, combined with funds from the Chapter, allowed two scholarships to be given. A \$1,000 scholarship was given to Christopher David Daniel Mansfield and a \$500 scholarship to Rachel Beesen for their excellent design work.

The Chapter was very proud to award two long-time supporters with honorary memberships this year; former Representative John Olver and UMass professor Max Page. John Olver was honored for his advocacy and great vision in helping to plan for regional sustainability and Max Page for his support of thinking, teaching, researching and supporting the public good.

Following a delicious dinner provided by The Black Sheep, Lorin and Chris presented the Design Awards. This year the WMAIA partnered with the Western MA Section of the Boston Society of Landscape Architects (BSLA) and we received 18 submissions. Two citation awards and four Honor Awards were presented. Please see the winners, submission comments and photos of all the projects on pages three to seven of this issue.

Happy New Year!



2014 WMAIA Honorary Memberships / Members of Board of Directors, from left: Chris Farley AIA, WMAIA Board President, Ludmilla Pavlova-Gilham AIA, WMAIA Board Secretary, Thomas RC Hartman AIA, WMAIA Board Treasurer, Rep. John Olver, Hon. WMAIA, Professor Max Page Hon. WMAIA, Helen Fantini AIA, WMAIA Board President-Elect, Lorin Starr, WMAIA Executive Director, Julie Waggoner, Affil WMAIA, Stephen Schreiber FAIA



# OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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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](mailto:EDITOR@WMAIA.ORG)

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THE EDITOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT OR REVISE MATERIAL AS SPACE AND SUBJECTIVE OPINION PERMIT.

COVER PHOTO: PAUL PUIIA

### HONORARY WMAIA MEMBERSHIPS AWARDED TO JOHN OLVER & MAX PAGE

Honorary membership in the WMAIA are awarded biennially to persons of esteemed character who are ineligible for membership in the Institute, but who have rendered distinguished service to the profession of architecture or the arts and sciences allied therewith. The WMAIA was pleased to award two honorary memberships for 2014: one to John Olver, former U.S. Representative for MA's 1st congressional district 1991 – 2013, and the second to Max Page, Professor of Architecture and History at UMass Amherst.

In awarding the membership to John Olver, WMAIA president Chris Farley noted Rep. Olver's commitment to sustainable communities and green energy. Listed were Rep. Olver's support and securing of funding for bike paths in three counties; for the wood structure for the new Integrated Design Building at UMASS, for the first zero-net energy transit center in the country (Greenfield's John W. Olver Transportation Center); the sustainable energy greenhouse at Greenfield Community College; and his advocacy for renewable energy & energy efficiency, public transportation, land protection, forest legacy, water resource protection and clean-up, and use of local products in construction.

In introducing Max Page, Chris Farley noted the professor's credentials in authoring and editing many architectural books, including "Reconsidering Jane Jacobs" (2011; co-edited with Tim Mennell), and a current project entitled "Priceless: Rethinking Historic Preservation in the 21st Century." Professor Page has been the recipient of fellowships from the Howard Foundation, the Fulbright Commission, and the Guggenheim Foundation; last year he was named a winner of the 2013 Rome Prize in Historic Preservation and spent the spring of 2014 at the American Academy in Rome. Lastly, Mr. Farley recognized the continuing education opportunities provided to the Chapter through the UMASS Preservation & Sustainability Series.

#### WMAIA

##### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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# WMAIA DESIGN AWARDS 2014

The Design Awards Program was co-hosted this year by the WMAIA and the Boston Society of Landscape Architects – Western Massachusetts Section. The competition was open to any building type or landscape anywhere in the world completed at any time in the last ten years, by any architect or landscape architect whose principal office is currently located in Western Massachusetts (Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden and Hampshire counties), or if the project architect is a member of WMAIA. The sole criterion of the program is design excellence.



Photo: WMAIA

The jury was comprised of four architectural professionals from New Hampshire: Terrence Parker ASLA, Terra Firma Landscape Architecture, Portsmouth, NH; Sheldon Pennoyer Architects, Concord, NH; Katie Cassidy Sutherland AIA, Scully Architects, Keene NH; and Sheldon Pennoyer AIA; Ward D'Elia AIA, Samyn-D'Elia Architects, Ashland NH.

## HONOR AWARD: MINUTEMAN PLAZA DODSON & FLINKER



Photos: Harry Dodson

The first Honor Award, for landscape architecture, went to the firm Dodson & Flinker, represented by Principal Harry Dodson, of Ashfield, MA for the design of the Minuteman Plaza on the UMASS campus. The jury admired the "Excellent resolution of the site issues, pedestrian circulation, and excellent execution and use of materials..."

## HONOR AWARD: UMASS CAMPUS PLAN UMASS AMHERST CAMPUS PLANNING



Rendering: Frank M. Costantino



Rendering: Jeff Stikeman Architectural Art

A second Honor Award in the interdisciplinary / built / unbuilt category was given to UMASS / Amherst Campus Planning, represented by Ludmilla Pavlova-Gillham AIA and a number of campus associates and professionals, for the UMASS Long-Term Campus Plan. The jury's remarked that "Every diagram seemed to handle issues in just the right way. The new buildings added are well done and in the core. Liked the mixed development core."



# WMAIA DESIGN AWARDS 2014

## HONOR AWARD: NEW ENGLAND PUBLIC RADIO

KUHN RIDDLE ARCHITECTS



Photos: Joshua Sugiyama

Two Honor Awards in the architectural design category were taken by Kuhn Riddle Architects of Amherst, MA. The first, accepted by architect Ann Marshall AIA, was for the design of new offices for New England Public Radio (NEPR) in an existing building in Springfield, MA. The jury was enthusiastic about the “Great new use for old building.”, and commented that “Textures and rhythms are great. A lot of integrity and detail. Lovely use of daylight in the interior.”

## HONOR AWARD: 79 SOUTH PLEASANT STREET

KUHN RIDDLE ARCHITECTS

The second award, accepted by Kuhn Riddle principal / architect Charles Roberts AIA and intern architect Andy Grogan, honored the addition to an existing Amherst College building at 79 Pleasant Street – directly across from the Amherst Common. The winning firm cited their desire to “explore how a building can exist as both historic and modern...relationships between multiple contexts: campus and downtown, old and new.” The jury called this work a “very strong project...a sophisticated piece of design.” They applauded the “integration of new, modern addition and existing building”, and “loved the transformation of the front.”



Photos: Joshua Sugiyama

### 2014 WMAIA DESIGN AWARD WINNERS

From left: Charles Roberts AIA (front), Chris Farley AIA (rear) and Andy Grogan Assoc AIA, all of Kuhn Riddle Architects, UMASS Campus Planning members Dennis Swinford, Niels LaCour, Simon Raine, and Ludmilla Pavlova-Gilham AIA, Stephen Gerard Dietemann AIA, Derek Noble AIA, Steffian Bradley Associates



Photo: WMAIA



# WMAIA DESIGN AWARDS 2014

## CITATION AWARD: BAYSTATE CHILDREN'S SPECIALTY CENTER

STEFFIAN BRADLEY ARCHITECTS



Photos: Bruce T. Martin

A Citation award was given to Steffian Bradley Architects of Enfield, CT, represented by Derek Noble AIA, for their design of the Baystate Children's Specialty Center in Springfield, MA.

## CITATION AWARD: CONZETT/GOGUEN RESIDENCE

STEPHEN GERALD DIETEMANN ARCHITECT AIA



Photos: Paul Puitta

A Citation Award went to Stephen Gerard Dietemann AIA of Great Barrington, MA for his design of the Conzett/Goguen residence, a contemporary cabin in the woods.

## STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

The WMAIA, with funding from AIA National – presents two student scholarships every year. Entries are accepted from students at the UMASS Department of Architecture M.Arch program. This year's scholarships were presented to Christopher David Daniel Mansfield, for his unbuilt design for a heroin addiction treatment center, and to Rachel Beesen for her design and construction of a combination bench / music stand.



Photos: WMAIA



# WMAIA DESIGN AWARDS 2014

## OTHER ENTRIES



Photo: Ethan Drinker Photography

SMITH BECHTEL CENTER  
DODSON & FLINKER, INC.+ COLDHAM & HARTMAN ARCHITECTS



Photo: Maxine Schnitzer Photography

RAIN GARDEN + PAVILION  
SITELAB Architecture + Design

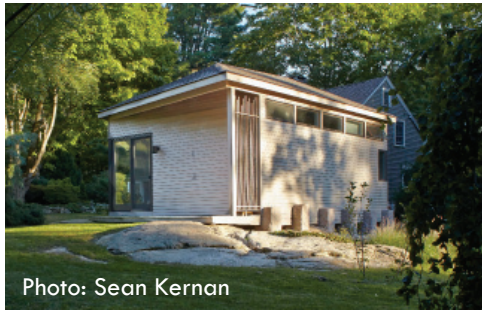


Photo: Sean Kernan

KERNAN STUDIO  
NAOMI DARLING ARCHITECTURE LLC



Photo: Kuhn Riddle Architects

BERKSHIRES POOLHOUSE  
KUHN RIDDLE ARCHITECTS



Photo: Phil Chang

ROLLING PLANTER  
CROOKEDWORKS ARCHITECTURE WITH UMASS  
LANDSCAPE ARCH STUDENTS + PERMACULTURE COMMITTEE



Photo: Ned Gray

MOUNTAIN HOUSE  
AUSTIN DESIGN INC. + JOAN S. ROCKWELL ASSOCIATES



Photo: Paul Puia

PERLMAN RESIDENCE  
STEPHEN GERARD DIETEMANN ARCHITECT AIA



Photo: Paul Puia

QUINN RESIDENCE  
STEPHEN GERARD DIETEMANN ARCHITECT AIA



Photo: Matthew Sutter

SOLAR COURTYARD HOUSE  
RK STUDIO ARCHITECTURE

# WMAIA DESIGN AWARDS 2014

## OTHER ENTRIES, CONTINUED:



Photo: Craig Okerstrom-Lang

ROCKWELL STUDIO  
OKERSTROM LANG LTD LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS  
PAMELA SANDLER AIA ARCHITECTS



Photo: Craig Okerstrom-Lang

MOUNTAIN HOUSE  
OKERSTROM LANG LTD LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS  
MARYANN THOMPSON ARCHITECTS  
MATHISON | MATHISON ARCHITECTS



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## AIRBARRIER DESIGN STRATEGY

As a HERS rater I get to talk regularly to designers and builders about air barrier details. A building's air barrier is comprised of many air impermeable materials that have multiple functions and are installed at different times during construction. It is a very real component of the building that will fail, sometimes with major consequences, if it is not continuous and contiguous. A little leakage is often acceptable, yet a significant amount of leakage will compromise the quality of the building and may mean the house does not pass the energy code.

There are three general approaches to establishing an air barrier and as long as vapor transport is considered, redundant air barriers are a very good thing.

1. On the exterior of insulation: Example Taped house wrap and/or continuous insulated sheathing in a wall or hot roof system.
2. In the middle of the assembly: Closed cell spray foam or other impermeable insulation materials such as closed cell rigid boards. (densepack cellulose is not an air barrier!)
3. On the inside of insulation: Airtight drywall approach by sealing the sheetrock/framing intersections and all outlet and other service penetrations through sheetrock.

### What air sealing approach is the best?

The short answer is that it doesn't matter, as long as there is a strategy and the entire project team is aware of what needs to be done. I prefer the exterior insulated sheathing approach as it is often the most straightforward to execute and to convey to builders because the penetrations are easiest to target (windows, hood vents etc.) In this system the rigid insulation works with the wrap that flashes window openings for a successful air barrier. The added continuous R-value of this assembly often results in a very comfortable living space.

The popular Zip system integrated sheathing, air, and water resistant barriers has proven to work as a good air barrier when installed correctly. House wrap and plywood wall sheathing on the exterior of a 'typical' framed wall are adequate air barrier materials, but in reality, there are usually many tears and gaps so this approach is not sufficient.

Air and (hopefully not) bulk water can find it's way into the wall insulation assembly and through openings in the dry-wall. For high performance buildings, some level of redundancy is smart. For example, even with a tight layer of continuous wall insulation (aka insulated sheathing), it is a good idea to implement cost and time effective aspects of the airtight drywall approach as a redundant measure.

This is actually required, in part, by the Energy Star and Mass Save New Construction rebate programs. Airsealing details can easily fall through the cracks (pun intended).

### Who is responsible for this building component?

The designer and builder should be responsible for specifying and executing the air barrier. The air barrier can be traced on the plans as a continuous red line in section views: If your pen lifts, then it is not continuous. Some insulation companies offer air sealing or guaranteed air barrier performance, which takes the load off the builder. Yet often the GC's carpenters or the GC him/herself is responsible for doing the detailed caulking or foaming. If there is a HERS rater on the project they should be tasked with assessing and inspecting the air barrier at various stages of the building process, including during the preliminary energy modeling phase before construction starts.

As a HERS rater I discuss these details with the builder as early as possible. My hope is that the question, 'what is your air barrier strategy?' receives less perplexed looks as air barrier design and execution reaches the mainstream.



Photo: HIS & HERS Energy Efficiency

Closed cell spray foam against the sheathing on interior of wall is a robust airbarrier strategy.

**Adin Maynard** is a HERS rater and BPI Building Analyst.

His company, HIS & HERS Energy Efficiency, supports architects and builders with code compliance, building diagnostics, and rebate programs.

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# THINGS TO SEE + DO IN WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

## MASS MoCA



UNIVERSITY MUSEUM  
OF CONTEMPORARY ART  
at the Fine Arts Center

**40 Years / 40 Artists**  
January 22 – March 8, 2015  
Opening | January 21,  
5:00–7:00 pm

### Lee Boroson: Plastic Fantastic

**On view now**

Lee Boroson's work begins with ideas of nature, which he mediates between the landscape as culture as opposed to notions of the outdoors as "wild" or "untamed." To achieve this goal, Boroson creates large-scale immersive installations using inflatables, fabric, and light to create phenomenological experiences for his viewers, based on the elemental forces in nature, from air, fog, and smoke, to fire and the cosmos. Boroson's installations are embodied and ephemeral within the space of the museum.



### Ann Hamilton: Paper Chorus

**On view through Spring, 2015**



**My new weaving is a crossing of voices and time to form a cloth of embodied remembering. - Ann Hamilton**



### Liz Deschenes

**On view beginning May 23, 2015**

Liz Deschenes takes the medium of photography itself and its conditions as the subject of her work. Described as "self-reflexive" or "concrete photography," Deschenes' practice makes visible the materials, properties, and chemical processes of photography rather than represent the external world.

## CONGRATULATIONS 2014 WINNERS!



### 2014 BEST IN SHOW

Atlantic Gable - Patrick Ahearn  
Architect LLC, Boston, MA

*Inspire and Be Inspired!*



To view the full gallery of winners, visit [www.marvin.com/architectschallenge](http://www.marvin.com/architectschallenge)

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(413) 665-2280  
[jwaggoner@micablue.com](mailto:jwaggoner@micablue.com)





MID CENTURY CAPE  
WILLIAMSTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

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BURR MCCALLUM ARCHITECTS



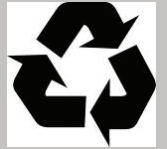
*After*



*After*

DO YOU HAVE A BEFORE + AFTER PROJECT FOR US TO FEATURE?  
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## WMAIA programs

PLEASE NOTE: THE WMAIA/ FIVE COLLEGE  
FILM SERIES WILL RESUME IN MARCH 2015

### CONNECTING TO CRAFT: WORKSHOPS IN THE CONSTRUCTION TRADES

The AIA College of Fellows recently awarded WMAIA's Emerging Professional in Architecture a grant to conduct four workshops on construction materials and assemblies. The grant will allow workshop participants to visit trade shops across the Valley for two hour, hands-on sessions and conversations with skilled contractors. Each workshop will also be documented and archived on a pilot WMAIA/EP Detailing Toolkit website for future use as studio reference material.

#### FUTURE WORKSHOPS:

February 12 – Bringing it All Together / Intelligent Framing and Finish Carpentry with Specialized Construction Inc.

March 12 – Old and New Technology in Architectural Woodwork with VCA

**Registration info forthcoming.**



CONGRATULATIONS TO AMHERST COLLEGE & THE LORD JEFFERY INN  
WINNER OF A **SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPION AWARD** FROM HISTORIC  
HOTELS OF AMERICA AT THE 2014 AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE!

#### UMASS ANNOUNCES:

#### BCT IS HIRING A LECTURER IN SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

A new Lecturer position is available immediately in the Department of Building Construction Technology. This faculty position focuses on sustainable construction practices, such as lean construction, prefabrication, BIM & IPD. Learn more and apply at the following link:

<http://eco.umass.edu/positions-in-eco/lecturer-in-sustainable-construction-management/>

Application deadline is February 12, 2015 and the position will commence September 2015.

#### ARE YOU RECEIVING WMAIA EMAILS?

Most of our communication is via email – including nearly all program information. If you are not receiving emails from us please contact [director@wmaia.org](mailto:director@wmaia.org) with your updated information. Thank you!

**DID YOU NOTICE THAT OUR ANNUAL DESIGN AWARDS ISSUE IS IN FULL COLOR?  
WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

EMAIL [EDITOR@WMAIA.ORG](mailto:EDITOR@WMAIA.ORG) WITH FEEDBACK!