

F O C U S

Chicago Chapter American Institute of Architects

December 1981 Newsletter

LAUDITS FROM THE PRESIDENT

After a year in which so many people helped strengthen the CCAIA by actively supporting the numerous projects and programs that we have participated in or spearheaded, credit and appreciation is due.

The Illinois Council was instrumental in the passage of legislation which will benefit all architects practicing in Illinois. Leadership was provided by Ron Coline, ably assisted by Executive Director Shirley Norvell and Administrative Assistant, Carol Briggs. Representing the Illinois Council as National AIA Board Director was Lay Ovresat, who provided critical leadership. The CCAIA was represented on the Illinois Council board by Don Hackl, Richard Redemke, and Jack Hartray, and alternates Tom Eyerman and Dirk Lohan.

The task force to reorganize Illinois Council is now at a critical juncture with the attempt to implement a bylaw revision which will be brought to the Illinois Council for passage in November. The CCAIA is committed to advancing Council's visibility and viability through a cohesive state organization which should realize greater recognition with the National AIA. Task force members are Don Hackl, Ray Brechja, Ron Coline, Tom Eyerman, Dirk Lohan and myself.

Vice-presidents Bill Larson, Ray Solfisburg and Carol Barney, have provided guidance, knowledge and judgement on many CCAIA items. Bill and Roy will be leaving the board this year and deserve our thanks and appreciation for the time and effort they have given to our chapter.

Norman DeHaan continued his fine work as a board director and is a member of the Mayor's Advis-

ory Board for Accessibility. John Holabird and the 1982 Fellowship Committee reviewed eleven nominations, and forwarded the nominees' portfolios to the national fellowship jury. Chicago Chapter members named as 1981 Fellows were Stanley N. Allan, Robert Diamant, Andrew L. Heard, Charles F. Murphy, Douglas Schroeder, and Rodney Wright. Bruce Graham and the Design Committee offered a series of conferences this past spring concerning the view of Chicago by Chicago architects with Art Takeuchi and George Schipporeit coordinating two of the symposiums. Carol Barney doubled as membership chairman and vice-president.

The main focus of all the CCAIA committees has been the North Loop with its impact addressed by Diane Legge Lohan, John Craib-Cox, Dennis Probst, Mitch Green, Steve Weiss, Lauren Rottet and Lauren McCracken and their many supporting committee members. The work accomplished will be culminated in a white paper which consolidates input from all committees and has received approval from the Board. In August a design charrette was sponsored by the City of Chicago Planning Department under Dennis Harder, with CCAIA members and Metropolitan Housing and Planning Council members participating in a solution for Theatre Row in the North Loop. This charrette plus numerous meetings with the City of Chicago Planning Department has provided the basis of the CCAIA white paper.

The City of Chicago's service tax has led to the formation of a joint committee of professionals opposing the tax. At present, the legality of the service tax is to be decided by the Illinois Supreme Court; a decision in the near future is anticipated.

A Quality Assurance Foundation was formed as a product of the Quality Assurance Task Force

chaired jointly by Jack Hartray and Robert Wesley, with Gene Montgomery, John Schlossman, Jerry Quebe, David Sauer, Paul Lurie and myself. The February Seminar at the University of Illinois was the first of a series of programs. Furthermore, the National AIA has looked favorably on the Quality Assurance Foundation as it is the first AIA activity of this type in the U.S., and should provide benefits to all AIA members.

The Chapter hosted visiting architects from Ulster and Northern Ireland, and France. The Chapter also received President Randall Vosbeck.

1981 included seminars on Energy, Financial Management and Design with National providing tools for membership and seminar promotion.

The Chapter's proposed revisions to the Rehabilitation Building Code, including the formation of a Building Code Appeals Board was handled so well by Joe Anselmo, Steve Weiss, Frank Heitzman, and John Alschuler; the proposal is finally receiving a public hearing before the City Council Building and Zoning Board. Joe Fitzgerald has coordinated all the activity with the AIA and other participating organizations for public hearings.

Stanley Allan chaired the Distinguished Building Awards program which featured Ed Bacon as speaker. The Interiors awards were handled for the second year by Ken Johnson and Ken van der Kolk, who flew in from New York to assist in the presentations. Helmut Jahn and Harry Weese provided stimulating speeches to a packed Neocon audience.

A special thanks must go to the staff that makes all AIA members look good. Vicki Behm led us for half of the year with Alice Sinkevitch so ably replacing her. Annette Kolasinski always makes

sure that we all remember our responsibilities (if we forget) to the membership and to insure that the Focus is out and delivered on time. LaDonna Whitmer continues the management of document sales; we are all confident of her ability to monitor the budget.

Bill Larson and Roy Solfisburg led a smooth move of the Chapter with a Holabird & Root staff preparing the new floor plan.

I want to thank each of you and the rest of the membership for the opportunity to serve the CCAIA. I thoroughly enjoyed this past year.

Richard B. Cook
President, 1981

DIRECTION THROUGH LEADERSHIP

The energy and vitality of an organization is generated through its committee structure. Committees give purpose to an organization by laying the groundwork for significant contributions made on behalf of its membership to the profession as a whole. There is a long list of motivators for involvement, that add up to personal, professional, social and service benefits. 1981 CCAIA committees have helped shape the direction of the architectural profession. Following are reports that help illustrate the goals and accomplishments of the Chicago Chapter through its committee structure.

City House

In February, 1979, amid snow and slush, City House made its debut at Navy Pier. It was an inspiration! Held again at Navy Pier, the March, 1980 City House was widely applauded for its quality exhibits and the impetus it gave to architectural preservation. Disappointing, at best, the 1981 version of City House was shrouded by problems.

The primary goals for the 1981 show were to increase the size of the exhibit and make money. This attitude resulted in changing the emphasis from preservation to

maintenance. Navy Pier was abandoned for broader and more glamorous quarters in Donnelley Hall. The committee for screening exhibitors was dissolved following an altercation with officials over artificial siding. Exhibit procedures became unnecessarily complicated. Exhibits such as animal care were presented, although the connection with either preservation or maintenance is vague. Montgomery Ward's "This Old House" model mysteriously disappeared.

At this point, the future purpose of City House remains unclear. Expansion and profitability alone are not admirable goals if quality must suffer. A high quality conservation fair relative to Chicago architectural history and guided by lofty design principals is needed in Chicago, desired by the people, and is in the public interest. Whether the CCAIA continues to participate in City House needs to be evaluated.

Gary W. Dawkins, AIA

Energy

"A Line on Design and Energy", focus of the 1981 Minneapolis convention, has been supported by a major energy education program which is now in progress and will continue through 1983. The full Energy and Architecture seminar series was scheduled for Chicago this fall, with the first two sessions held at the Graham Foundation's Madlener House. Those attending these two-day workshops were enthusiastic about the material covered and the expertise of instructors Huber Buehrer and Ben Evans. Level 3B was postponed and will be rescheduled for Spring, 1982 in anticipation of capturing a wider audience. Two members of the Energy Committee, Brian Robertson and Larry Dieckman were chosen from among several hundred applicants nationwide to serve as instructors in the National AIA Energy and Architecture Professional Development Program.

The Energy Committee, in conjunction with several other CCAIA committees and jointly with the Chicago Chapter of ASHRAE, pre-

pared a white paper on the North Loop Redevelopment project relative to energy conservation issues within the project boundaries. A dialogue has been established with members of the City of Chicago Planning Department which will, in 1982, hopefully be expanded beyond the scope of the North Loop.

Among the programs presented by the Energy Committee in 1981: C. William Brubaker, FAIA, and chairman of the 1981 National Awards jury, reviewed the Owens-Corning Fiberglas Ninth Annual Energy Conservation Awards; Jim Goettsch, AIA and Lance Dompke, PE, Project Architect and Engineer discussed the energy conservation features of the new State of Illinois Center at Chicago; Leonard Bihler, PE, and Larry Geni of B + A Engineers, Ltd. reviewed their approach to pre-design energy analysis, and discuss their experience with several architects in producing increasingly energy-efficient projects; Carl D. Johnson, FASIA, of Johnson, Johnson and Roy, Ann Arbor, reviewed his own work and presented a discussion of the benefits of planning and landscape architecture as they can effect energy conservation in new and existing construction; and the second annual joint meeting of AIA and ASHRAE took place in November with a focus on the architect/engineer cooperation and collaboration required to produce energy-efficient architecture.

A "nuts and bolts" sub-committee was established to allow participants to present and discuss personal projects, concerns and questions relating to energy design. We are currently involved in the planning of an interprofessional workshop on solar energy for February, 1982 with APA/ASLA/ASCE/HBAC and hope to have an open meeting of the National Energy Committee scheduled for Chicago in early 1982.

Much has been accomplished in the second year of this committee, but there is far more waiting to be attempted, particularly in the area of professional awareness and education relative to energy as an architectural design issue.

Dennis Probst, AIA
Vic Smith, PE

Insurance

The Insurance Committee has been charged with monitoring the Chapter sponsored and commended health benefits programs as administered by Vernon Associates, Belmont. In this role, the committee must be aware of alternative programs, enhancements to our current sponsored programs and changes in legal requirements.

To meet this charge, the committee held several meetings in 1981 to review the status of the current programs with Ben Hill of Vernon Associates. Several recommended changes were made in the health and benefit program including the establishment of a Plan 9 with an average semi-private room rate for hospital confinement, among other changes. Previous plans all contained a maximum room and board rate which often failed to keep up with inflation, particularly in areas with high cost health care facilities (primarily in the City of Chicago).

The committee conducted an extensive review of the national AIA sponsored health and benefit program, and recommended that for 1981-82 no change be made to the national program.

At present, the committee provides some review of professional liability insurance and commends the program offered by Vernon Associates. This program is monitored in much the same manner as are the health and benefit programs.

Howard G. Birnberg

Interior Architecture

The committee's initial program of the year was titled "Interior Presentations" and was directed at the marketing of interior design services. With that in mind, representatives from three varying types of firms discussed and illustrated some of the "do's and don't's" used when being interviewed for an interiors project. Interest level was high as attendance was considerably larger than the average for previous programs.

Deviating somewhat from the idea of a number of general meeting

programs of the previous years, it was decided to concentrate and direct efforts toward promoting two specific committee objectives, i.e. "increase public awareness of interior architecture, what it is, its role in the total environment, and of its practitioners," and "recognize and publicize excellence through an awards program." With this in mind, the following activities were accomplished:

1. The National AIA Committee on Interiors held its second steering and open committee meeting of the year in Chicago two days preceding the opening of Neocon XIII.

2. One of the features of Neocon was the closing day seminar, "The Inside Out of Design - The Changing Role of the Architect." A lively discussion was held by the panelists Harry Weese and Helmut Jahn, with John Dixon, Editor of Progressive Architecture as the moderator. The seminar was endorsed by the CCAIA, the National committee and the CCAIA Interiors Committee.

3. The Committee participated in the organization of Neocon's Chicago Architect's Day luncheon, sponsored by the Chapter. The panel of leading developers from Berger Financial Services, Metropolitan Structures, Inc., and The Levy Organization expressed their confidence in the future of the industry and discussed their role in the American economy. The moderator was Jerry Davis, Financial Editor of the Chicago Sun-Times.

4. The second annual Interior Awards Program presentation was held the evening before the opening of Neocon. Of the sixty-nine entries in the program (compared to forty-three last year), the Houston-based jury selected nine projects to receive Citations of Merit, with SOM's Banco de Occidente receiving the Honor Award. Attendance was more than double that of the previous year and the program results received excellent local and national press coverage.

5. Two National Interiors Committee meetings afforded me the opportunity to exchange thoughts, goals, and accomplishments with other Chapters chairmen. At one

of the meetings I had the opportunity to present "Guidelines for Establishing a Local Committee," drawn from the Chicago Chapter experience two years ago. The CCAIA Interiors Awards was used as a model, providing valuable material and assistance to those Chapters in various stages of organizing or examining the possibility of an awards program.

While substantial progress was made in achieving results directed at the previously mentioned goals, it is the intent of the Committee to repeat successful 1981 programs and increase number of meetings in 1982.

The committee would like to acknowledge the efforts of Ken van der Kolk, one of the original steering committee members and chairman of the 1980 and 81 awards program, who has moved to New York. We appreciate his contribution to the CCAIA Interior Architecture Committee.

Kenneth E. Johnson

Historic Resources

1981 programs of the Historic Resources Committee included tours, speakers, and investigative meetings focusing on Chicago's dwindling historic architectural resources. In the early part of the year attention was directed to the Northwestern Station. An inspection was made of the newly renovated Union Station to assess the possibility of effecting a similar renovation at the Northwestern Station.

The Committee has been studying the possible impact of the proposed North Loop Redevelopment Project. A statement was presented to the Board of Directors concerning this project. Following this proposal the Historic Resources Committee continued its investigation and prepared a report on the impact of the project on the existing architectural fabric of downtown Chicago. The committee also worked with other committees of the CCAIA to make recommendations to the City on the ultimate form of the North Loop project.

John Craib-Cox

'SMOKY TRIO' SEMINAR

JANUARY 15, 1982

THE ILLINOIS CHAPTER - ASHRAE, in cosponsorship with Chicago Chapter, AIA, Chicago Commission on Hi-Rise Buildings, and Building Managers Association of Chicago will present a one-day seminar on "FIRE & LIFE SAFETY IN BUILDINGS" on Friday, January 15, 1982 at the Holiday Inn-Mart Plaza, located at 350 North Orleans Street (atop the Apparel Center), Chicago, Illinois. The seminar will feature three of the nation's foremost experts in fire and arson investigation, better known as "THE SMOKY TRIO". The "TRIO" will discuss fire and smoke control and prevention from the standpoint of the building owner, the architect, and the engineer.

Hear Brooks Semple, Bob Taylor and Bill Schmidt discuss their findings at the MGM Grand Hotel, The Beverly Hills Supper Club and other major, national disasters. The information they will present is a must for every design engineer.

The fee for the seminar is \$90.00 per person, if paid prior to January 8, 1982; the fee for registration after January 8, 1982 is \$100.00 per person. The fee includes all handouts, luncheon and refreshment. Hotel accommodations are NOT included. Ample parking is available.

For further information, please contact Mr. Tom Kroeschell at 312/691-4501.

Make plans NOW to attend this interesting and informative one-day seminar!!

Detach & Mail to: Mr. Tom Kroeschell
Commonwealth Edison Co.
1N423 Swift Road
Lombard, IL 60148

Please register the following for "FIRE & LIFE SAFETY IN BUILDINGS",
January 15, 1982:

Name (s) _____

Home Address: _____ Home Phone: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Employer: _____ Title: _____

Company Address: _____ Co. Phone: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Make check payable to "ASHRAE-ILLINOIS CHAPTER"

MATERIALS & METHODS of CONSTRUCTION

A Seminar Series
co-sponsored by
Chicago Chapter, AIA
and
Construction Specifications Institute

January 20, 1981 "Single-ply & High Tech Roofing"
February 3, 1981 "High Pressure Laminates"
February 17, 1981 "Surface Preparation for Paint Finishes"
March 3, 1981 "Concrete Additives"
March 17, 1981 "Skylights and Slope Glazing"

Hotel Bismarck
171 W. Randolph
8:00 - 9:30 AM

The fee for five seminars is \$30; for each individual seminar, \$7. (Includes continental breakfast.) Registration for the series must be received in the Chapter office by January 19. To register for each individual seminar, registration should be received by noon the day before each seminar.

Materials & Methods of Construction was planned and coordinated by Michael Biskin and Terry Lallak, AIA.

AIA/CSI SEMINARS REGISTRATION FORM

Five Seminars: \$30 - Individual seminars: \$7 each

I wish to register for Jan. 20____, Feb. 3____, Feb. 17____, March 3____
March 17____. My check for \$____ is enclosed.

Name _____ Tele. # _____

Address _____

Make check payable to Chicago Chapter, AIA. Mail to 53 W. Jackson Blvd.,
Suite 346, Chicago, IL 60604.

Planning & Urban Affairs _____

The Planning and Urban Affairs Committee concentrated its efforts in 1981 on a response to the North Loop Redevelopment Guidelines first issued in March, 1981. The Committee developed a series of diagrams addressing major aspects of North Loop Redevelopment and summarizing AIA attitudes towards Offices, Housing, Retail, Transportation, and Architectural Landmarks. The diagrams and a written statement were presented to the Department of Planning at a public hearing in April, 1981.

Later in the year, several members of the Committee were invited to participate in the Department of Planning North Loop Design Workshop. The workshop assembled architects, developers, artists, lawyers, financiers and other professionals to discuss the theatre row concept for Blocks E and F of the North Loop. Diagrams and verbal statements were transmitted to the Department of Planning to assist them in further development of North Loop Guidelines as related to Theatre Row.

In September, 1981, a joint effort of the Planning and Urban Affairs, Housing, Historic Resources, and Energy Committees produced a specific and detailed analysis of the North Loop Guidelines as amended and reissued. These recommendations were issued to the Department of Planning at the last public hearing of the Guidelines before City Council approval. The recommendations are currently being printed and will be available in brochure form in December.

It's been an informative and constructive year for the Planning and Urban Affairs Committee. Our thanks to the Board of Directors for their guidance and support of our North Loop activities.

The Mayor's New Comprehensive Plan for the City will be the focus of 1982 committee activities although attentiveness to North Loop Redevelopment will be maintained.

Diane Legge Lohan, AIA

Real Estate Development _____

The primary goal during 1981 of the Architects' Real Estate Development Committee was obtaining information from various financial and legal sources to understand what new creative methods are available for structuring financial packages in these unprecedented monetary conditions. Once this information was derived, our secondary direction was to relate this to the Chapter's members in hopes that the mysterious role of the developer could be made understandable and give the architect another tool for relating to that type of client or developing a project of their own.

We heard an interesting presentation by the Draper and Kramer Mortgage Division that outlined the contents of the presentation that the developer or architect requires which enables a correspondent to evaluate the viability of a development project. Another example of some of the presentations made was one by Fohrman, Lurie, Sklar, Cottle, Ltd.'s legal financial specialist concerning financing mechanisms for the control of real estate with minimal cash expenditure.

While the Committee felt it had accomplished its primary goal it was mutually agreed that a committee of this nature should continue to obtain information needed to educate the architect interested in development, and to work to find a process of presenting this to practicing architects as well as the architectural student.

Plans are presently being made for the forthcoming year to hear presentations by developers. We welcome interested new members in what is perceived as a viable economical recovery year.

Sherwin Braun, AIA

Office Practice _____

Activities during 1981 consisted of programs in the general area of office practice, with an emphasis on having experts in selected fields offer presentations tailored to the operation of the architect's

office. Among the guest speakers were Thomas Graham, Illinois Department of Labor, whose topic was employers/employee relations, policies and legal rights; Mr. Howard Birnberg of Birnberg Associates presented an evaluation of results of the 1980 Financial Survey of Architectural, Engineering, and Interior Design Firms; Ms. Beverly L. Ferrell of Illinois Bell presented and demonstrated at the headquarters building the latest Bell System devices and equipment for use by the architectural and engineering industry; and James Economos of Urban Six shared with us how his firm has adopted the use of computers for cost estimating and other software programming i.e. specifications, accounting, correspondence and agreements.

In 1981, we hope to continue with additional programs which in the past have been of great interest to our members. In addition we should pursue evaluation of contracts and agreements, marketing, compensation, cost control, architect/contractor relations and responsibilities.

Peter F. Majewski, AIA

Student Affairs _____

Responding to an escalation of interest expressed by both faculty and students from UICC and IIT, the Student Affairs Committee sponsored its first design competition for architectural students. The selected problem was a "symbolic structure" for the proposed 1992 Chicago World's Fair. The structure would be hypothetically located in Monroe Street harbor on the east-west centerline of Buckingham Fountain. Entry forms were distributed last spring before the end of the school year so that those students entering would be able to prepare their submittals over the summer. In October, from a total of twenty-nine entries, the jury selected six winners to share in prize money funded by the AIA Foundation. The six winning designs are currently on display at the Chapter office through mid-December. A special thanks to Martin Reinhar and Mike Bordenaro, a UICC student

who served as co-chairmen for the competition, as well as Vicki Behm who provided valuable assistance.

In April, the Student Affairs Committee sponsored a seminar on "The Mechanics of Being Employed." The panel discussion was led by Jack Hartray. Other panel members consisted of Ivar Viehe-Naess, Stan Allan, Jean Bellas and Ferd Scheeler.

We are in process of planning activities for the coming year and welcome the participation of Chapter members in working with the students.

Mike Youngman, AIA

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

The Chicago Chapter welcomes the following members into the Institute and the Chapter:

MEMBER

Frank Gorman
Casey DeSalvo
Andrew Lind
John Ochoa
John Lahey
Harry Hunderman
James Antell
David Urschel
John A. Wilson
Ronald Kobold
Stephen Rose (Upgrade)

ASSOCIATE

Matthias Jans
Mary Anne Borghi
Phyllis Shaw
Martin Kleiber

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATE

Richard Marsh

STUDENT

Stephen Flint
Michael Baron
Kenneth Hutson
Dan Meis
Bruce Washington
Mary Ann Wencel
Terri Ann Rysell
Gregg Berger

Applications for Membership have been received from Thomas Buckley; Mario Tainer, Jack Taipala, Mimir

Nikich, Ellen Galland, Dana Terp (upgrade); for Associate, applications have been received from Jeri Bucey, James Christerson, Barry Harrison, William Leung, Kenneth Baker, George Kanakaris, Joseph Burns, Christopher Hood.

Please direct confidential correspondence regarding these applications to any member of the Board.

ASID HONORS DE HAAN

Norman DeHaan was presented the ASID Medal of Honor for outstanding contribution to the Illinois Chapter. Mr. DeHaan was recognized for his efforts in coordinating the exhibition, "50 Years of Interior Design," and was presented with a crystal decanter complete with engraved silver cap, at the annual awards meeting at the M & M Club on October 20. Fellow AIA Board members were heard to comment on the functionalism of the award. Fresh from that success DeHaan was a featured speaker at the Minnesota Society, AIA state convention.

Also, on October 20, the ASID 50th Anniversary Award was presented to Torwald Torgerson, who along with other committee chairmen, was recognized for his contribution to the various events surrounding the ASID 50th Anniversary.

ORGANIZING FOR '82

Chapter members interested in getting in on the ground floor in making plans for Energy Committee programs for 1982 should plan on being in the Chapter Board Room on Thursday, December 10 at noon.

WHAT MAKES GOOD ARCHITECTURE?

has always been the central question in the profession. With an eye to clarifying the various ways it can be answered today, Professors George Hinds and Anders Nereim are giving a weekly evening course in the Extension Division

of Circle Campus which will examine the way this question has been answered in the past. Readings for the seminar will include selections from architectural writings by Vitruvius, Alberti, Laugier, Boullee, Sittee, Le Corbusier, and El Lissitsky, in the context of philosophy by Plato, Descartes, Rousseau, Burke, Schopenhauer, Hegel, Ortega Y Gasset, and Eliade.

Call Professor Hinds for more information on the course or for registration information, 663-9682.

ASHRAE ENERGY AWARDS LUNCHEON

Winners in eight different building categories for distinguished design based on originality, energy savings, cost savings and economic payback, have been announced by John Cooper, President of the Illinois Chapter of ASHRAE. Awards will be presented at a luncheon to be held December 8, M & M Club. For reservations and information contact Michael McCombie, 593-0010.

BUILDING AN ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE

is the title of a course conducted by Howard Birnberg at UICC commencing January 27 and running for eleven weeks. For practitioners and students, the course will cover financial, project and marketing management for design firms. For more information, contact Betty Aspel, UICC, 996-7729.

HOLIDAY HOURS

The Chapter office will close at noon on December 24 and December 31.

JANUARY FOCUS DUE DATE: December 9

F O C U S

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