

F O C U S

Chicago Chapter American Institute of Architects

January 1983 Newsletter

MAKING 1983 A GOOD YEAR

Don Hackl, last month, reminded us that 1982 was a very good year for the Chicago Chapter. Even with difficult economic conditions, membership has grown to approximately 1200, and the Board of Directors and our able staff steered us through a year of active programs while ending the year in sound financial condition.



Bill Brubaker

The Chicago Chapter plans a great year of relevant programs to interest, assist, and involve all members; to cooperate with other organizations, and to remind the people of the Chicago region of the importance of architecture. Architects are idea generators. We all want to be involved in the affairs of the community and help create a better environment for all people. Sometimes we act individually, but CCAIA can often speak out on issues more effectively.

Among the activities we are considering for the year are: 1) an expanded and improved awards program, making it a major event, with

more media coverage, 2) a mid-west region design conference, 3) more collaboration with the architectural schools, 4) special programs on energy, computers, preservation, renovation, real estate, and legislative affairs, 5) visits to completed buildings, 6) cooperative programs with the Art Institute, Graham Foundation, Illinois Council, WAL, CSI, Chicago Architecture Foundation, NEOCON, etc., 7) a national AIA urban Planning and Design committee meeting in Chicago, and 8) social events.

Part of the team helping to execute 1983 plans is the Chicago Chapter Board of Directors. We welcome six new members to the Board: Susan

Greenwald as secretary, Paul Hansen as treasurer, Diane Legge Lohan, Dennis Probst and Steven Weiss as directors. Our new first vice-president and president elect, Tom Eyer- man, already has developed ideas for 1983 activities and is working on a Chapter organization concept.

FOCUS will continue to be an important monthly newsletter, and we expect to expand its scope. We'd welcome your suggestions.

1983 will be another good year for the CCAIA.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Brubaker".

C. William Brubaker, FAIA
President

CAD DEMONSTRATIONS SERIES

Beginning in January the Research Committee is sponsoring five demonstrations of computer-aided design systems. The first presentation will be given by Sigma Design on January 27 at 5 PM in the Chapter Board Room. Representatives from Sigma will demonstrate a system aimed at the architect/engineer/construction market.

The program is free and open to all Chapter members. Refreshments will be served and space is limited; so please call Joan at the Chapter office to reserve a place.

The CAD demonstrations will be held on the following dates: February 24, March 31, April 28 and May 26. The Research Committee will wrap up its spring season of programs with a tour for members of the 1981 National Computer Graphics Association Conference, which will be held June 26-30.

THE STUDENTS' CHOICE

Architectural students at IIT and the University of Illinois-Chicago will meet in mid-January to select their choices of the best of the entries submitted to the 1982 CCAIA Distinguished Buildings Awards Program. Coordinated by the CCAIA Design Committee and the Student Chapters of IIT and U of I-Chicago, the program will be held on January 28 from 2-5 PM in the Illinois Room in Chicago Circle Center.

Those projects selected will be presented by their designers on January 28 to a combined meeting of students from the two campuses. The program will culminate with the presentation of "Students' Choice" Awards certificates at 4:30, followed by refreshments. All Chapter members are invited.

MORE FOR LESS TO SOCIAL SERVICE GROUPS

Since 1974, the Chicago Architectural Assistance Center (CAAC) has been working in low-income neighborhoods throughout the city. Traditionally, this work was performed by Vista volunteers, CETA workers, students, low-paid professionals and occasional volunteer professionals. With these resources, the Center's project file grew vast and varied over its eight year history.

This year, with help from the city's Department of Human Services, CAAC has created a program with the aim of bringing more design professionals and community groups together. There are hundreds of human service providers in Chicago - non-profit agencies that deliver job-training, rehabilitation and other social services to the large group of

unemployed and/or underprivileged within the City's population. Many of these agencies are housed in older buildings, and as a result, are in need of technical assistance.

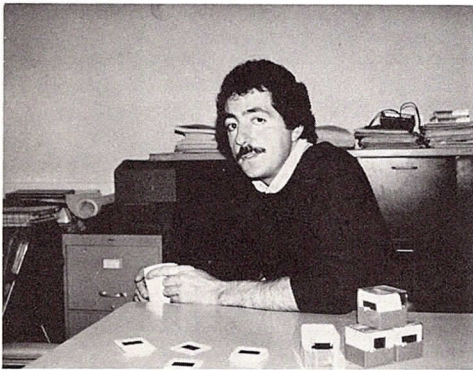
CAAC hopes to bring architectural and engineering services to these groups from the resources of the professional design community. Architects, engineers and planners who have an interest in community work will gain an important and worthwhile learning experience by joining the program. Many of these projects have unique circumstances posing challenging problem solving issues and may provide rewarding opportunities, especially for young socially-minded professionals.

TAHS, or Technical Assistance for Human Services, is

CAAC's new program title. CCAIA has endorsed the program by resolution of its Board of Directors and shares Advisory Committee duties with members of the CAAC Board. The Committee's first meeting on December 7th held great enthusiasm and provided the substance for a very real and feasible implementation.

Interested firms and practitioners may contact CAAC, 786-1920, for details about the program and how to participate. In the words of one of the Center's long-standing supporters and directors, John Holabird, "CAAC is the architect's clinic serving the needy in our community." As this project gets underway, the hopes are that more help can be provided where it is most needed to improve the quality of all our lives.

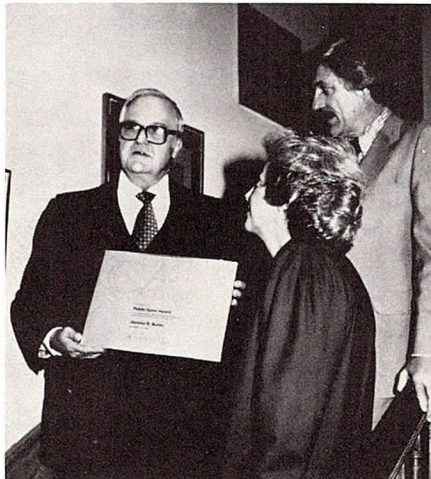
John Tomassi, AIA



John Tomassi,
CAAC Executive Director



A typical CAAC community project is this urban greenhouse built by neighborhood youth and ex-offenders and operated by a group of the elderly residents in its near-south side area location.



Janet Schirn, CAAC President, and Don Hackl, CCAIA President, present Commissioner Jerome Butler with this year's "CAAC Public Good Award" at the home of the Bertrand Goldbergs, November 18.

CONTRIBUTE YOUR CATALOG

New and smaller CCAIA firms usually have a difficult time getting copies of the Sweets Catalog. If any firm has a copy of the 1980 or 1981 Sweets that is soon to be replaced please call the Chapter office. Any requests for the set(s) will be filled in the order in which they are received.

INSURANCE REPORT

You may know that medical costs continue to be the highest increased item on the Consumer Price Index. Health care costs account for \$10 out of every \$100 of the Gross National Product. Hospital and nursing home costs are up four times over the past decade; physicians fees up three times; other goods and services have doubled. As Medicare-Medicaid have reduced their reimbursement, doctors and hospitals have had to make up these lost funds from insured programs. Also, of course, medical life-saving techniques have inflated the cost of medical care.

Federal Home Life, insurance carrier for Chicago Chapter firms, has been increasing medical rates some 20%-30% on most groups just to stay even. Claims paid to Chicago Chapter insureds in 1981-82 totaled \$296,342; if claims remain at the '81-'82 level, the expected claim total in 1983 will be \$341,000. Obviously, current premium rates are not sufficient to cover the increased claims cost, and 1983 premiums will require adjustment in the second quarter.

AIA members who were employed by a firm who carried health insurance through Vernon Associates, and are not working may retain their health plan through Vernon Associates at the group rate. This is, of course, available only if your AIA membership continues.

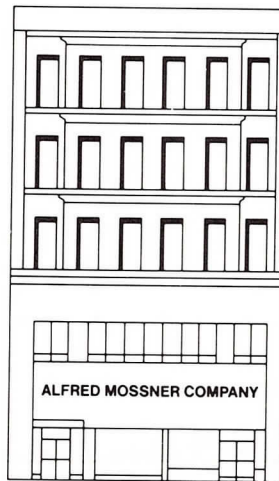
RAAB PRESENTS STEINER

Rex Raab, ARIBA, will give an illustrated lecture on the expressionist architectural works of Austrian philosopher, educator and scientist, Rudolph Steiner (1881-1925). Sponsored by the Chicago Anthroposophical Society, the lecture will take place on Saturday, January 22, 8 PM, at the Graham Foundation, West Burton Place.

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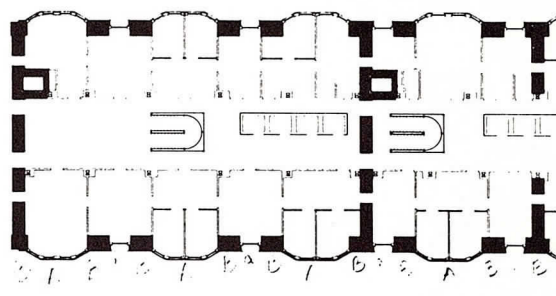
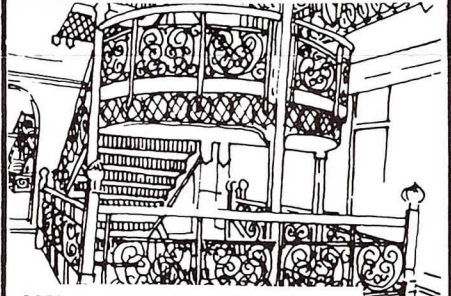
ALFRED MOSSNER COMPANY • FOR MORE THAN 60 YEARS

Mr. Raab gave a similar presentation at the large exhibition related to the work of Rudolph Steiner which was recently shown at the Cranbrook Academy of Art and

earlier at the Harvard Graduate School of Design and in London at both the Architectural Association and the Royal Institute of British Architects.

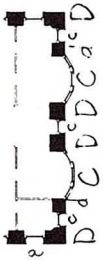
J A N

CHICAGO AIA FOCUS

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| | |  | |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | <p>FOCUS DEADLINE</p> <p>PLANNING COMMITTEE Noon, CCAIA Board Room</p> |
| 9 |  <p>1850 - John Wellborn Root born</p> | 11 | <p>HOUSING COMMITTEE Noon, CCAIA Board Room</p> <p>YOUNG ARCHITECTS 5:30 PM, CCAIA Board Room</p> |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | <p>MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING Noon, CCAIA Board Room</p> <p>REAL ESTATE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE "Planning for '83," Noon, CCAIA Board Room</p> <p>WAL JANUARY PROGRAM: Tour of WFMT and Chicago Magazine office, meet at WFMT offices at 10:30 AM, more information Jocelyn Kirkegaard 620-4527</p> <p>PLANNING COMMITTEE 5:30 PM, CCAIA Board Room</p> |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | <p>30</p> <p>31</p> <p>LECTURE: MYRON GONZALEZ on his own work, College of Architecture, 4 PM, Peabody 33rd & South State 567-3262</p> <p>BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Noon, CCAIA Board Room</p> |

A R Y

1983 CALENDAR



*Monadnock Block.
Plans of second story.*

1

WISHES FOR A PROSPEROUS
AND JOYOUS
NEW YEAR

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RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING
Noon, CCAIA Board Room

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LECTURE: REX RAAB, ARIBA, ON expressionist architectural works of Austrian philosopher, educator & scientist Rudolph Steiner, sponsored by Chicago Anthroposophical Society, 8 PM, Graham Foundation

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will speak
by IIT
lanning and
ditorium,
information

CAD DEMONSTRATION, by Sigma Design,
5 PM, CCAIA Board Room, Open to all
members, reservations 663-4111

"STUDENTS' CHOICE", 2-5 PM, awarding
of certificates, 4:30
Illinois Room in Chicago Circle Center



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BALTHAZAR KORAB AT IIT

The IIT College of Architecture, Planning & Design Lecture Committee and the IIT Architecture Student Association is sponsoring, "Balthazar Korab: Photography of Architecture" on Tuesday, February 8 5 PM. Mr. Korab, world recognized architectural photographer, will speak on photography as an extension of the creative process of architecture and as a presentation tool.

The lecture, open to the public and free of charge, will be held at Pearlstein Auditorium, 33rd St. and South State (35th St. Station on Southbound Howard "el").

IMPROVE CM SKILLS

Illinois Institute of Technology's Department of Civil Engineering and School of Advanced Studies will offer an eight-week course, "Managing the Construction Process", beginning February 14, 1983. The class will meet on consecutive Monday evenings from 6:30 - 8:30 PM in IIT's Grover Hermann Hall, 3241 South Federal Street.

The course, intended for all those concerned with the design and construction of buildings, will review management principles proven successful in industry and apply them at a working level to the requirements of the Construction Industry. Particular emphasis will be placed on management to improve progress and quality of the finished product, principally through improved interpersonal behavior.

The course will be taught by Dohn Mehlenbacher, Director of Physical Resources at IIT and registered professional and structural engineer; and David L. G. Jacobs, professor in the Center for Business and Economics at Elmhurst College.

For further information contact IIT's School of Advanced Studies at 567-3020.

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GOLD MEDAL TO NAT OWINGS

Former Chapter member, Nat Owings, FAIA, co-founder of SOM, has been selected to receive The American Institute of Architects' highest award, the Gold Medal. Mr. Owings, who now resides at Big Sur, California, becomes the 44th person to receive the Gold Medal, American architecture's highest award.

Owings was cited in the nomination for his "signal contributions to the quality and scope of American architecture." Symbols of the high standards set by Owings for SOM include two major projects on which he served as Project manager: the U.S. Air Force Academy and the Crown-Zellerbach office Building in San Francisco. "His most enduring contribution (in urban design) is his 20-year campaign to achieve unity and beauty on the nation's most processional street-Pennsylvania Avenue."

Owings was president of the Chicago Chapter in 1942.

MEMBERS MAKE NEWS

EDWARD H. MATTHEI, FAIA has been selected chairman of the American National Standards Institute's Committee on the National Standard for making Buildings and Facilities Accessible to Physically Handicapped People. Matthei serves as the AIA liaison to the Professional Advisory Council of the National Easter Seal Society. As an advisor to the Society for more than twenty years, he helped design and implement Easter Seal programs aimed at referencing the national standard for accessibility in federal and state laws as well as building codes.

KENNETH JOHNSON, associate member to the 1983 Board of Directors, and BRUCE GRAHAM, FAIA, were guest speakers at the Canadian Contract Furniture Group event, Canexus, in Toronto. A symposium develop-

ed by the National AIA Committee on Interiors included Mr. Johnson and Mr. Graham, along with Ken Walker and Arthur Gensler. "Differing Perspectives: the Views of Four Design Giants" was initiated from a nationwide survey in the January 1982 issue of Interior Design that identified the five most respected design firms in the U. S.

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POSITION WANTED

Architect: M.Arch., M.B.A. desires a position which will allow her to become involved in the detailing and assembling of a working drawing package while remaining in contact with other phases of the design and building process.
Contact: Beth Casey, 1402 W. North Shore, 1E, Chicago 60626, or call, after 6 PM, 761-8992.

F O C U S

Vol. 3, Issue 1

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